

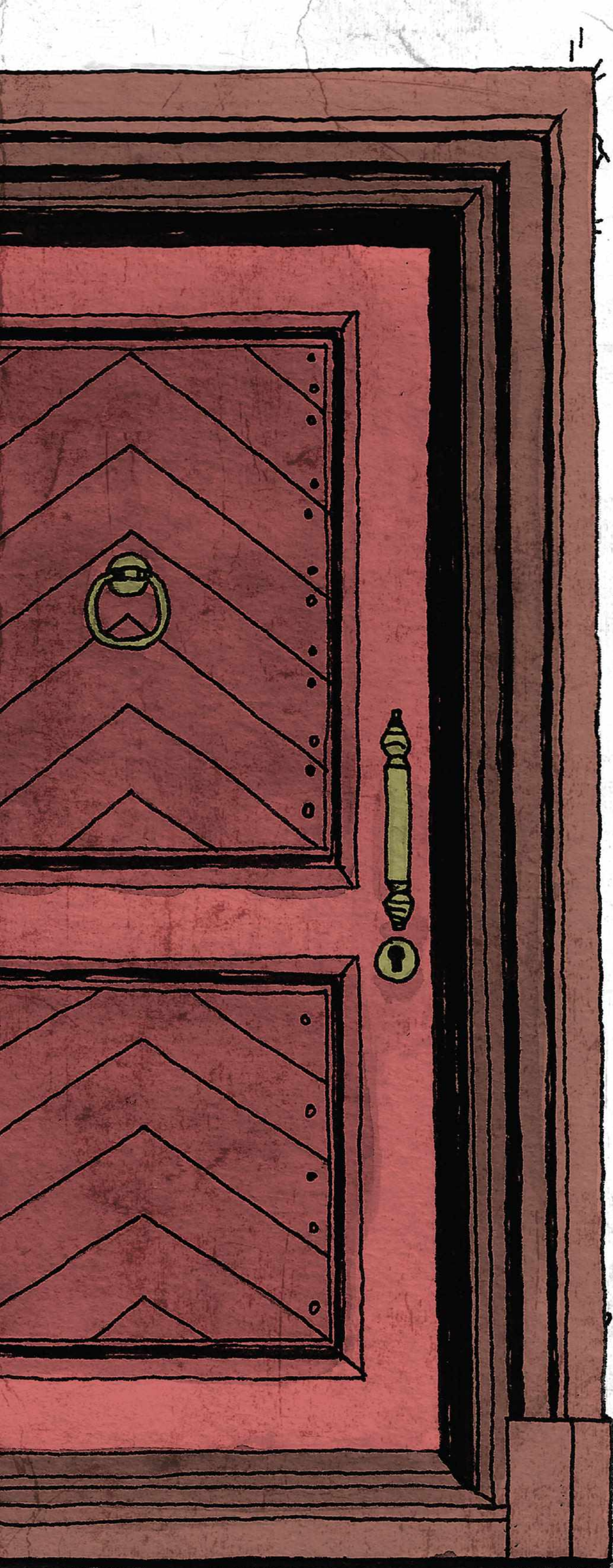
SCARLET WITCH

MARVEL

4

ORLANDO
PICHELLI
D'AMICO
WILSON





If your
NEED IS GREAT
and your
HOPE IS GONE,
there you will meet the...

SCARLET WITCH

Wanda Maximoff has opened a witchcraft shop called Emporium, which, in addition to selling magical remedies, is also home to the Last Door, a portal that appears only to those with nowhere else to turn. Her shopkeeper, Darcy Lewis, came through that very door a few weeks earlier, but Wanda didn't know why--until Scythia, leader of the Bacchae, came to town seeking justice for Darcy's crimes against her people...

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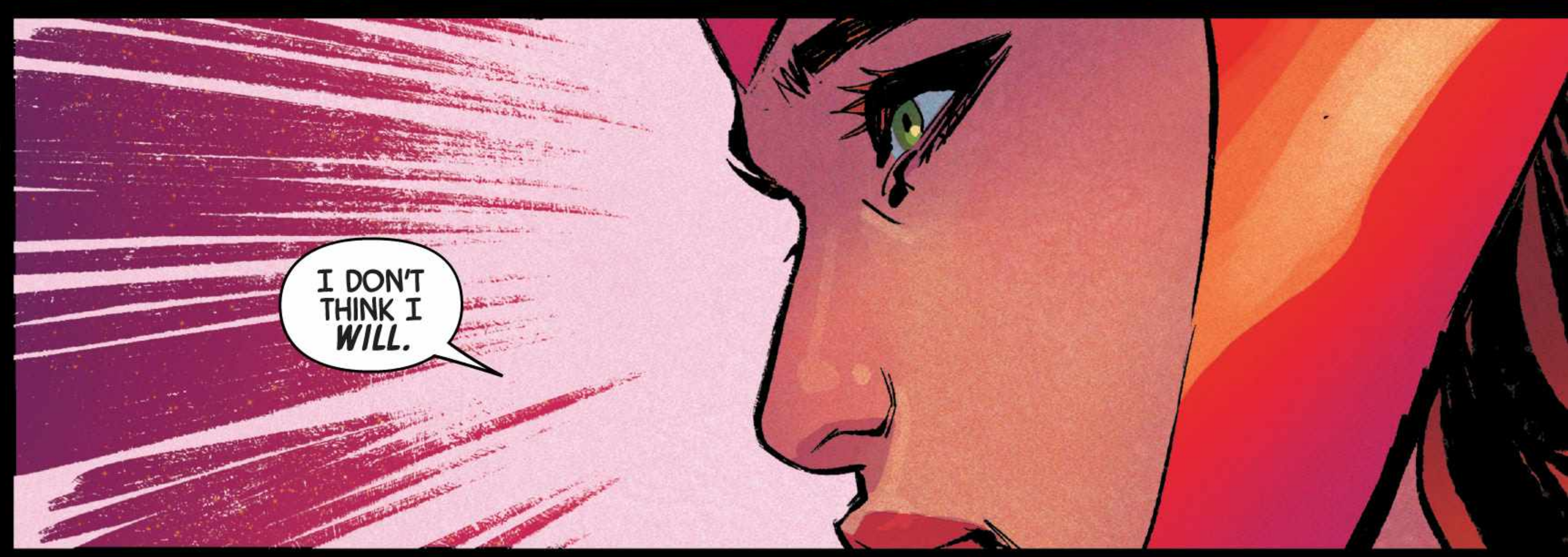
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YOU ARE
THE **SCARLET**
WITCH.

AND SOMEONE
JUST **BURNED**
DOWN YOUR HOUSE.

DARCY
LEWIS IS MINE,
MAXIMOFF.

STAND
ASIDE. OR
MEET THE **SAME**
END AS YOUR
HOME.

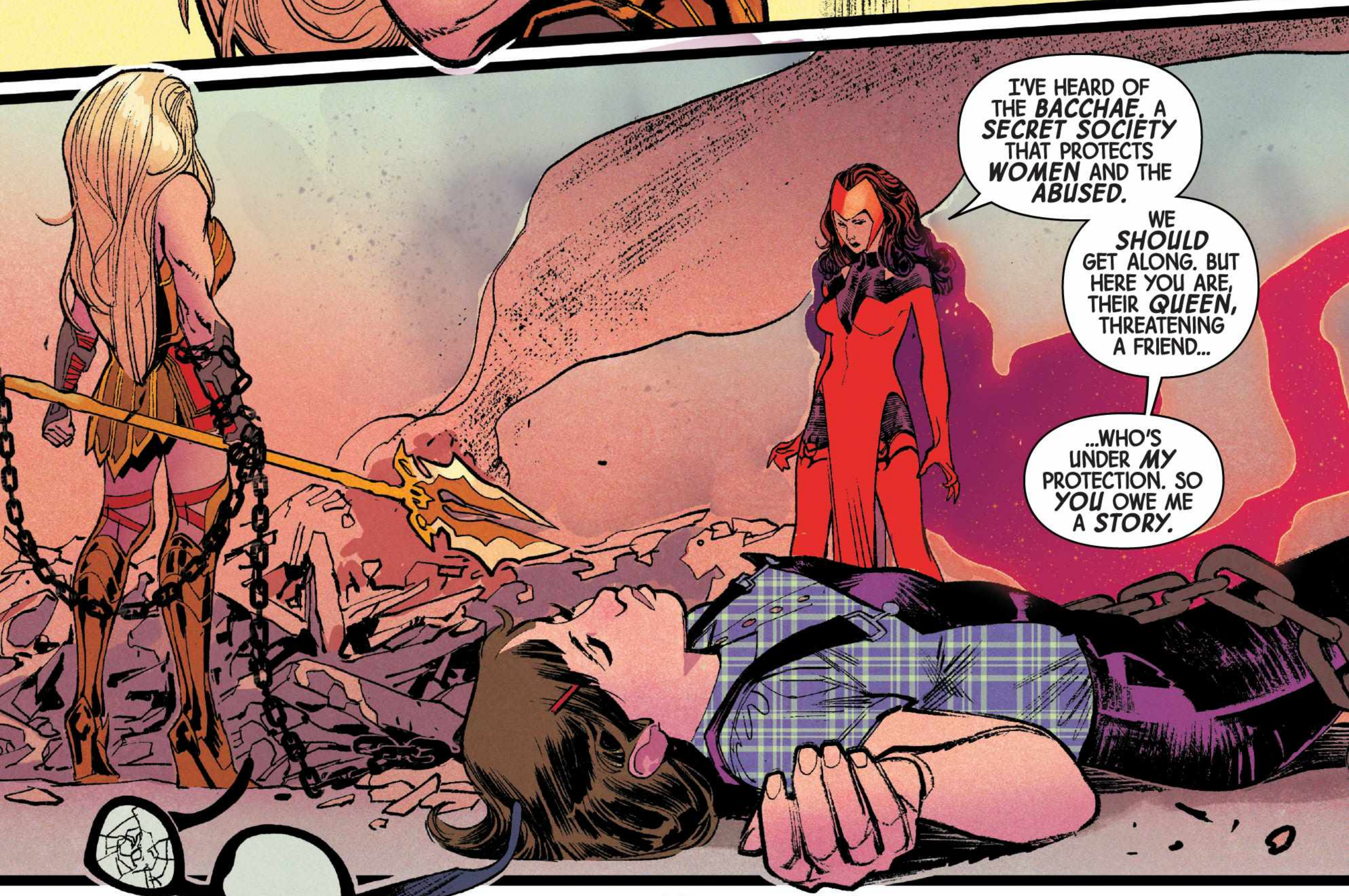


I DON'T
THINK I
WILL.



DO I
LOOK LIKE I'M
ASKING?

THUD



I'VE HEARD OF
THE *BACCHAE*. A
SECRET SOCIETY
THAT PROTECTS
WOMEN AND THE
ABUSED.

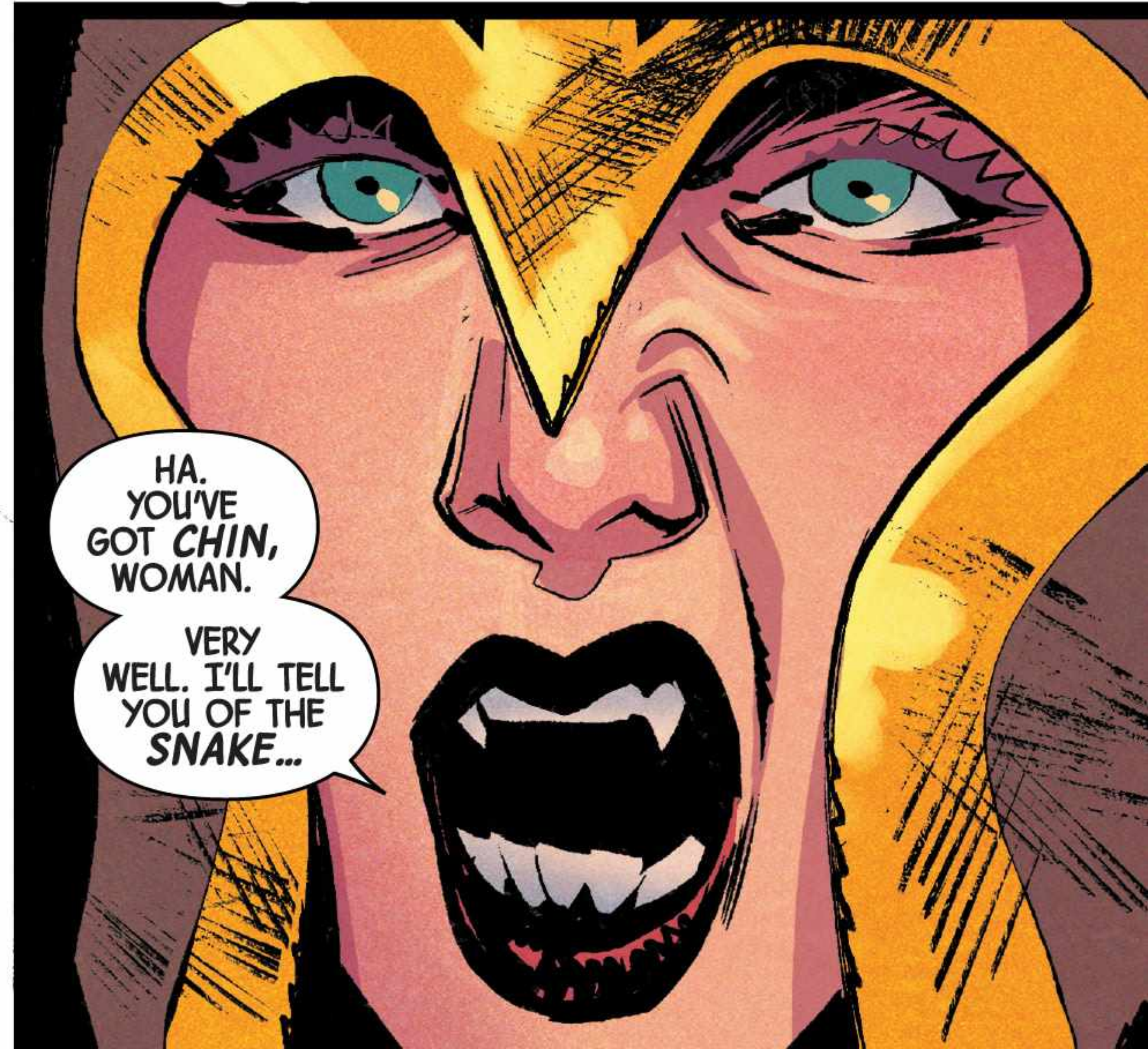
WE
SHOULD
GET ALONG. BUT
HERE YOU ARE,
THEIR *QUEEN*,
THREATENING
A FRIEND...

...WHO'S
UNDER MY
PROTECTION. SO
YOU OWE ME
A STORY.



AND IN
CASE YOU DIDN'T
NOTICE...

...I'M
NOT ASKING
EITHER.



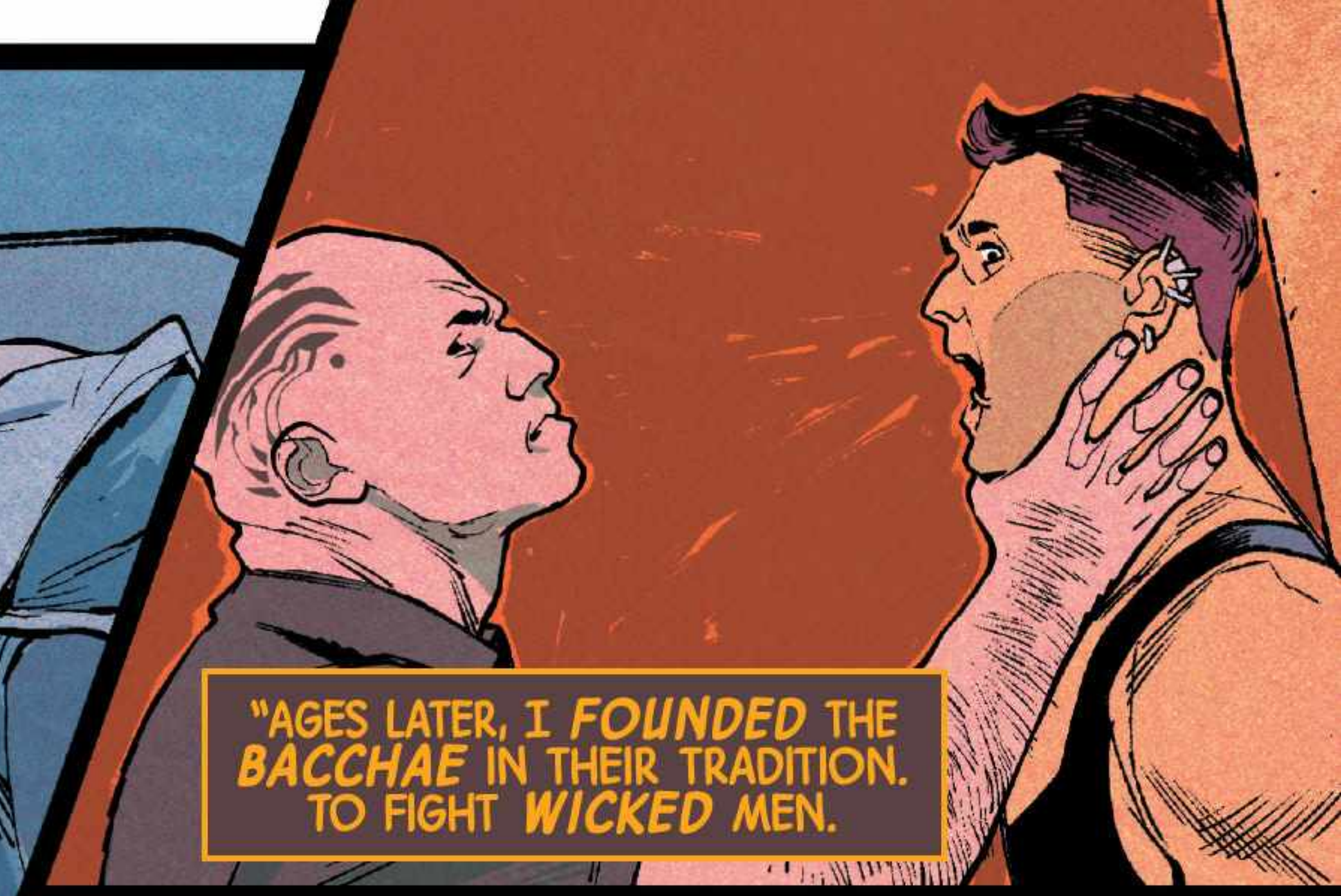
HA.
YOU'VE
GOT *CHIN*,
WOMAN.

VERY
WELL. I'LL TELL
YOU OF THE
SNAKE...



"...AND HOW SHE FORCED MY HAND.

"LONG AGO, AS HIPPOLYTA, I LED MY FELLOW AMAZONS FROM OPPRESSION.

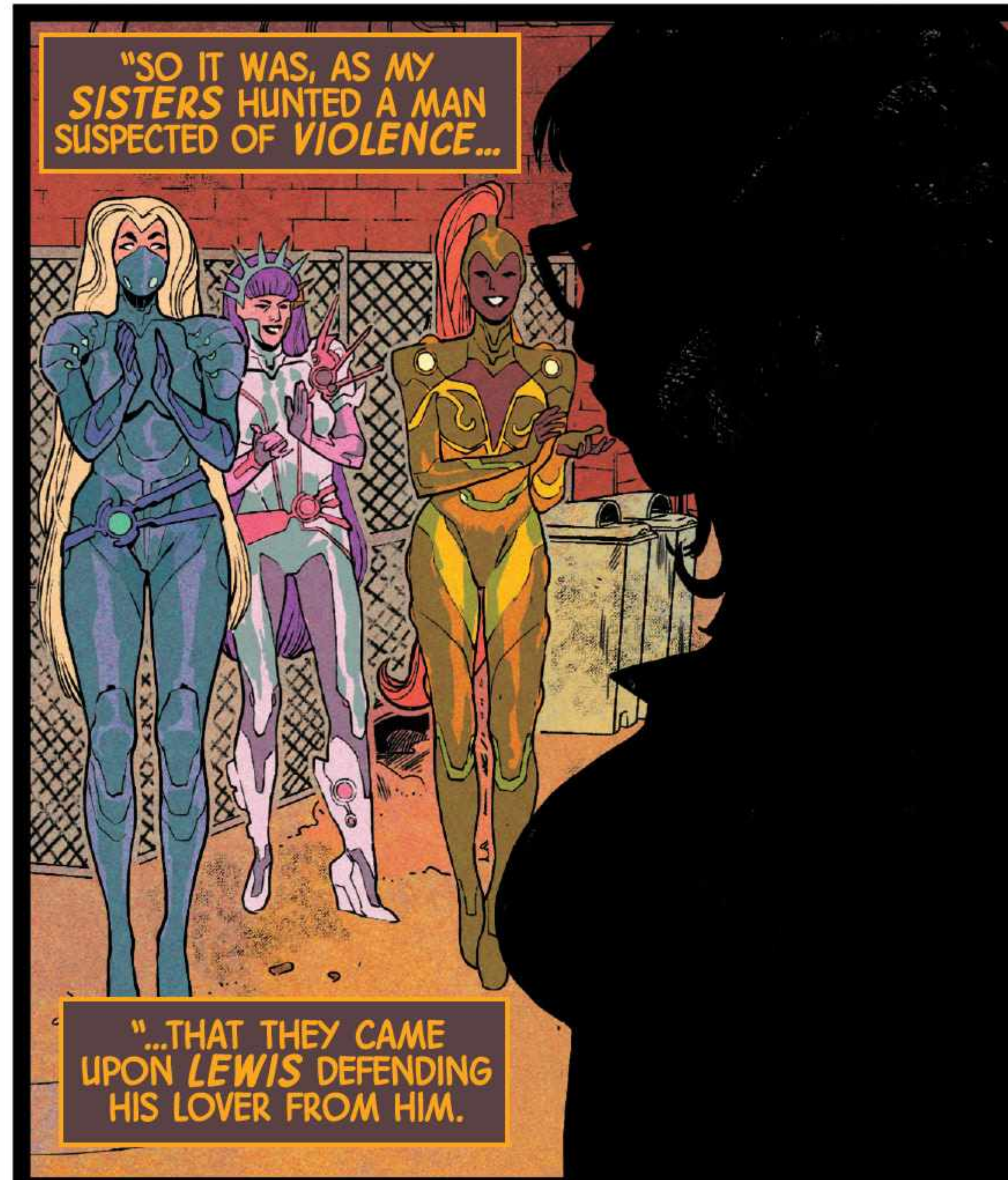


"AGES LATER, I FOUNDED THE BACCHAE IN THEIR TRADITION. TO FIGHT WICKED MEN.



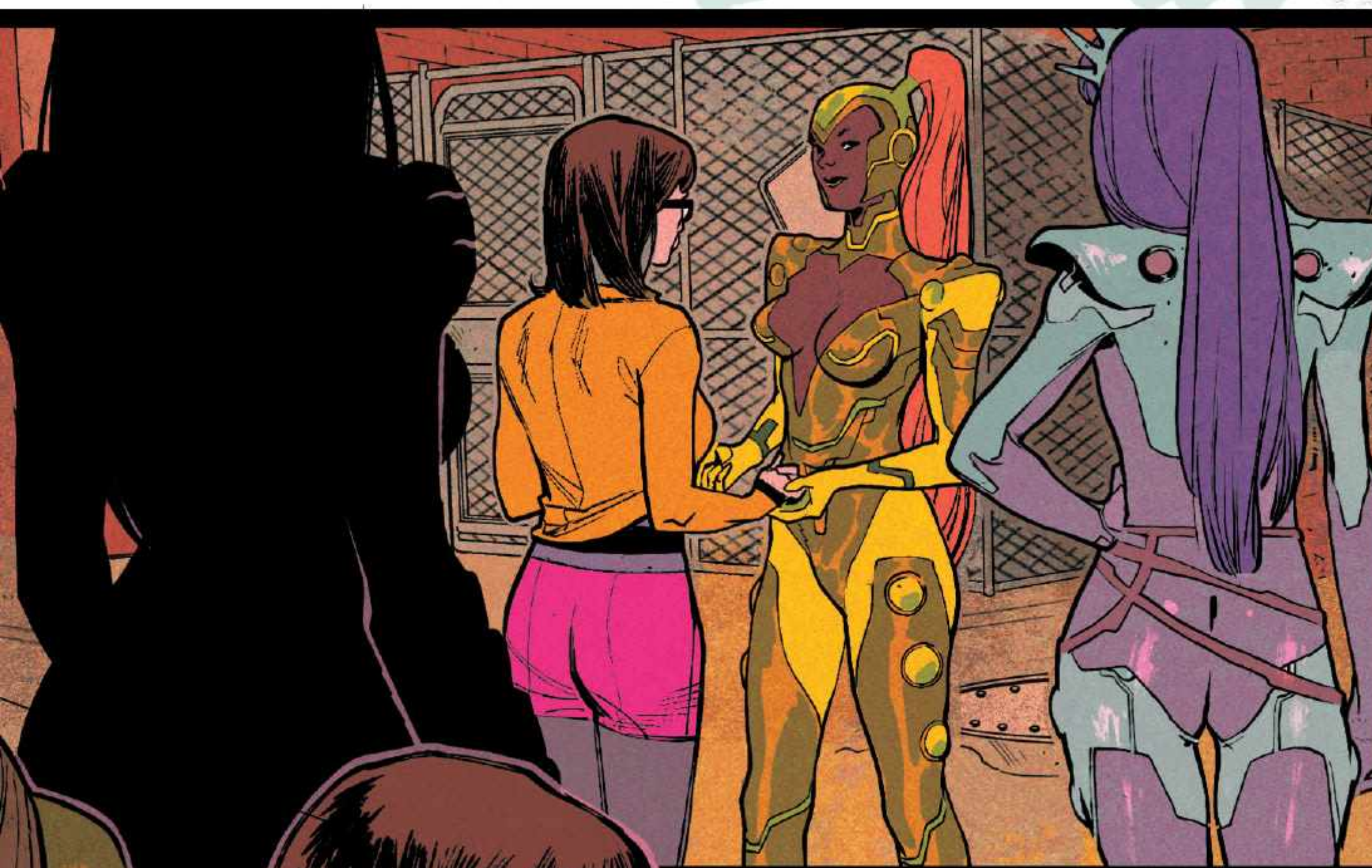
"TODAY, THERE ARE MANY SECTS. VIEWS DIFFER. BUT AS LONG AS THE WORLD HAS CHAINS...

"...THE BACCHAE WILL BREAK THEM, PHYSICAL OR OTHERWISE.



"SO IT WAS, AS MY SISTERS HUNTED A MAN SUSPECTED OF VIOLENCE...

"...THAT THEY CAME UPON LEWIS DEFENDING HIS LOVER FROM HIM.



"SHE PRESENTED HERSELF AS A KINDRED SOUL AND POSSIBLE INITIATE.

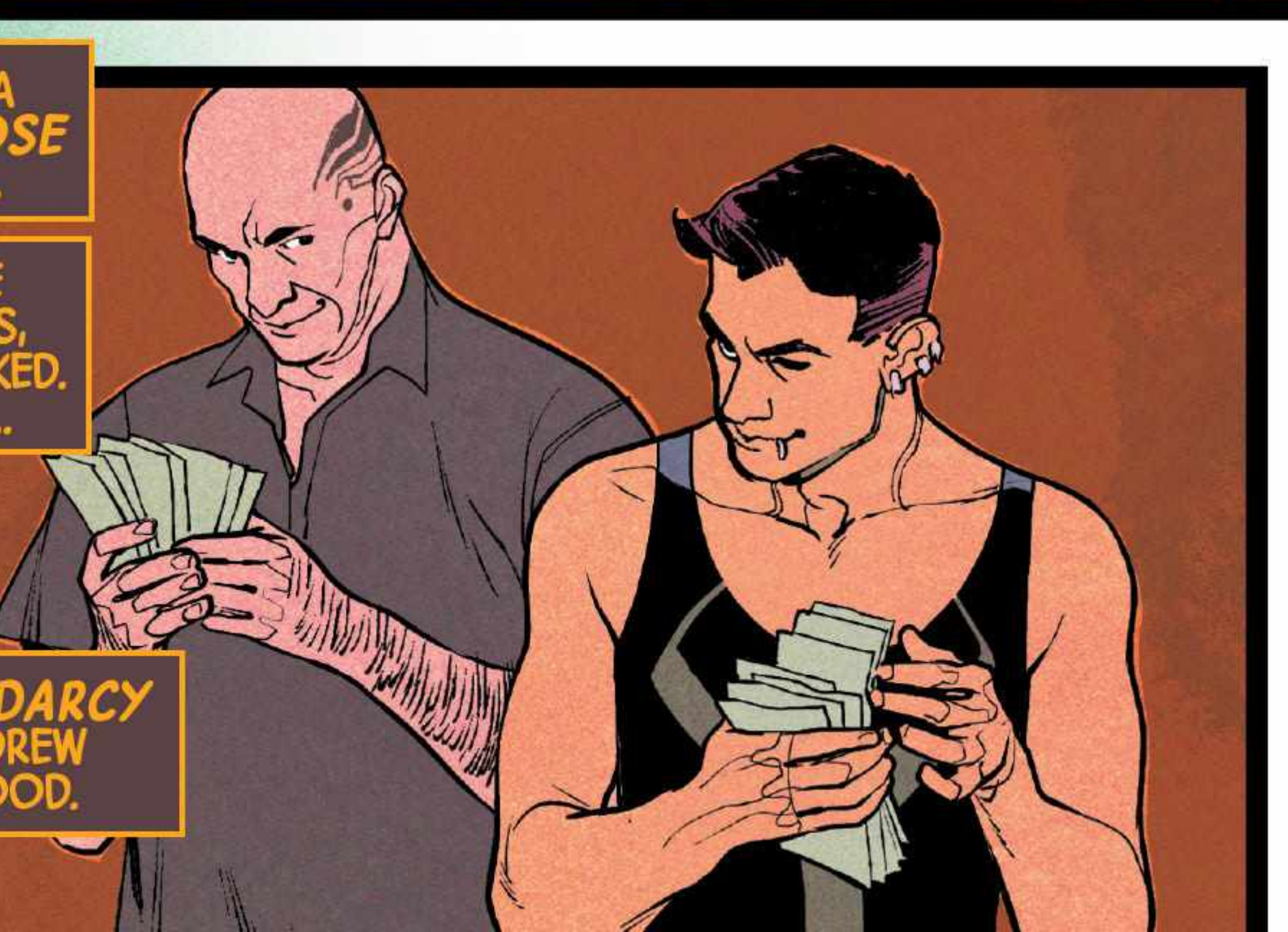
"MY SISTERS SAW HER POTENTIAL. THEY INVITED HER TO THEIR SECT.



"BUT IT WAS ALL A TRICK TO GET CLOSE TO THE BACCHAE.

"THERE WERE NO ATTACKERS, NO ONE ATTACKED. ONLY A RUSE...

"...IN WHICH DARCY LEWIS DREW FIRST BLOOD.





"WE LIVE IN **SECRECY**,
REVEALING OURSELVES ONLY
TO AVENGE THE ABUSED.

"EACH SECT ANSWERS THIS
CALL IN ITS **OWN** FASHION.
EACH KEEPS ITS **OWN** DEN..."

"...WHERE IT **HEALS** THE
WOUNDED AND **TEACHES**
THEM TO BREAK THEIR CHAINS.

"BUT AFTER WEEKS LIVING
AMONG US, LEARNING OUR
WAYS, BREAKING BREAD..."

"...LEWIS KILLED A
DAUGHTER OF
ENYO. ONE OF
HER **HOSTS**."



"IN OUR CULTURE, WE
ARE FREE TO DRAW
BACCHAE BLOOD."

"BUT THE **MURDER**
OF A SECT SISTER BY
AN **OUTSIDER** CALLS
FOR BALANCE."

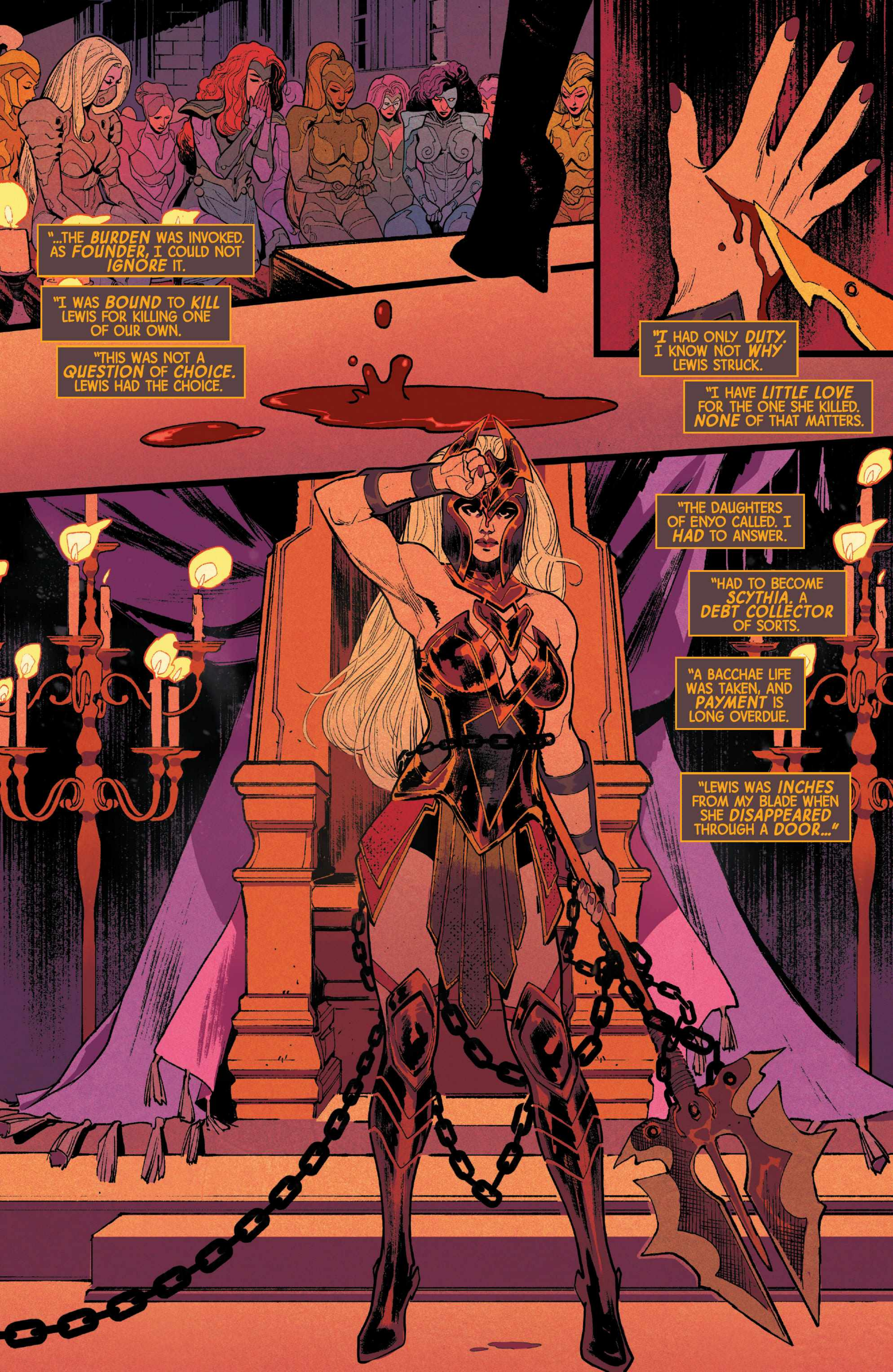
"A **LIFE** MUST BE COLLECTED
IN PAYMENT. THIS IS THE
FOUNDER'S BURDEN."

"A SACRED OBLIGATION.
LEWIS WAS NOT ONE OF US--
SHE ONLY **PLAYED** AT IT."



"THE **BACCHAE** NEED **NO**
QUEEN. I HAD LONG
SINCE **ABDICATED**."

"AND THOUGH THE
DAUGHTERS OF
ENYO HAVE STRAYED
FROM WHAT I MIGHT
CALL THE **PATH**..."



"...THE **BURDEN** WAS INVOKED.
AS **FOUNDER**, I COULD NOT
IGNORE IT.

"I WAS **BOUND** TO **KILL**
LEWIS FOR KILLING ONE
OF OUR OWN.

"THIS WAS NOT A
QUESTION OF **CHOICE**.
LEWIS HAD THE CHOICE.

"I HAD ONLY **DUTY**.
I KNOW NOT **WHY**
LEWIS STRUCK.

"I HAVE **LITTLE LOVE**
FOR THE ONE SHE KILLED.
NONE OF THAT MATTERS.

"THE DAUGHTERS
OF ENYO CALLED. I
HAD TO ANSWER.

"HAD TO BECOME
SCYTHIA, A
DEBT COLLECTOR
OF SORTS.

"A BACCHAE LIFE
WAS TAKEN, AND
PAYMENT IS
LONG OVERDUE.

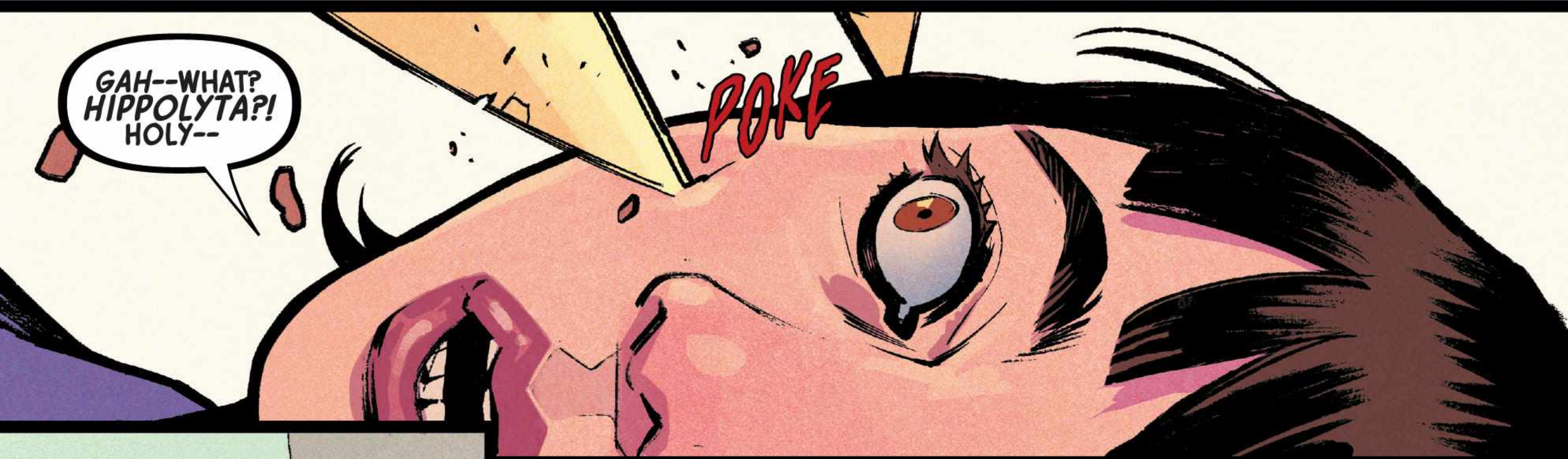
"LEWIS WAS **INCHES**
FROM MY BLADE WHEN
SHE **DISAPPEARED**
THROUGH A DOOR..."



...BUT EVERY DOOR LEADS SOMEWHERE.

YOU HAVE YOUR STORY. NOW YIELD. SURELY THE SCARLET WITCH RESPECTS TRADITION.

THE GIRL IS LATE FOR A LONG AND COMPLICATED EXECUTION.



POKE

GAH--WHAT? HIPPOLYTA?! HOLY--



QUICK, DARCY! JUMP!

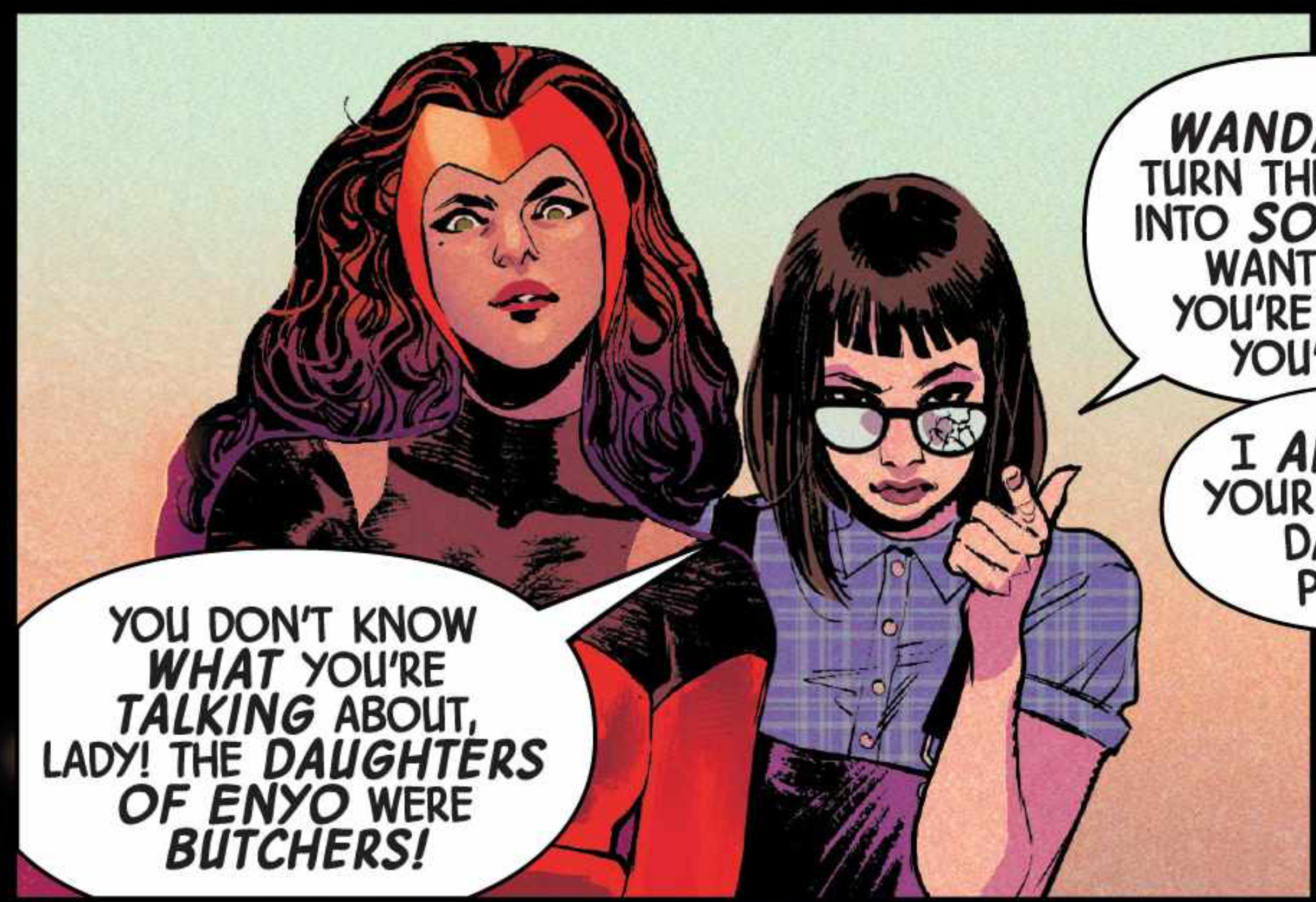


YES, MA'AM!



ADORABLE. SHE CLINGS TO YOU AS SHE DID THIS SAD ORNAMENT WHEN I FOUND HER.

THIS COULD BARELY DISPEL MY CIVILIAN GLAMOUR. YOU'LL DO EVEN LESS.



YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, LADY! THE DAUGHTERS OF ENYO WERE BUTCHERS!

WANDA COULD TURN THE MOON INTO SOUP IF SHE WANTED TO! YOU'RE DONE! YOU'RE--

I APPRECIATE YOUR CONFIDENCE, DARCY. BUT PERHAPS...



DEAL.

...LET ME TALK TO THE ANCIENT BLOOD DEBT COLLECTOR?



I KNOW DARCY, SCYTHIA. IF SHE DID KILL YOUR SECT SISTER, THERE WAS A REASON.

I'VE ALSO HEARD YOU. I SEE THAT YOU'RE BOUND BY HONOR. I RESPECT THAT.



BUT DARCY DYING JUST DOESN'T WORK FOR ME.

SURELY, THE FOUNDER OF THE BACCHAE CAN FIND ANOTHER WAY.

HA! DON'T CONDESCEND ME.

I DIDN'T COME TO TAKE LESSONS ON MY PEOPLE FROM A WITCH IN A TIARA...





I
CAME FOR
BLOOD!

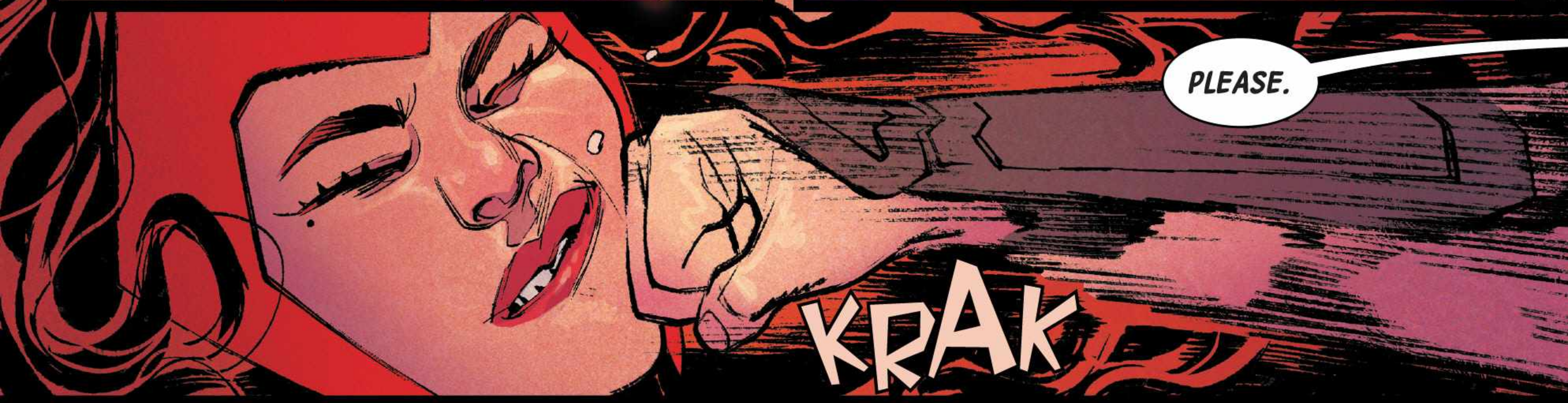
LUNGH!



SCYTHIA...



...YOU ONLY GET ONE.

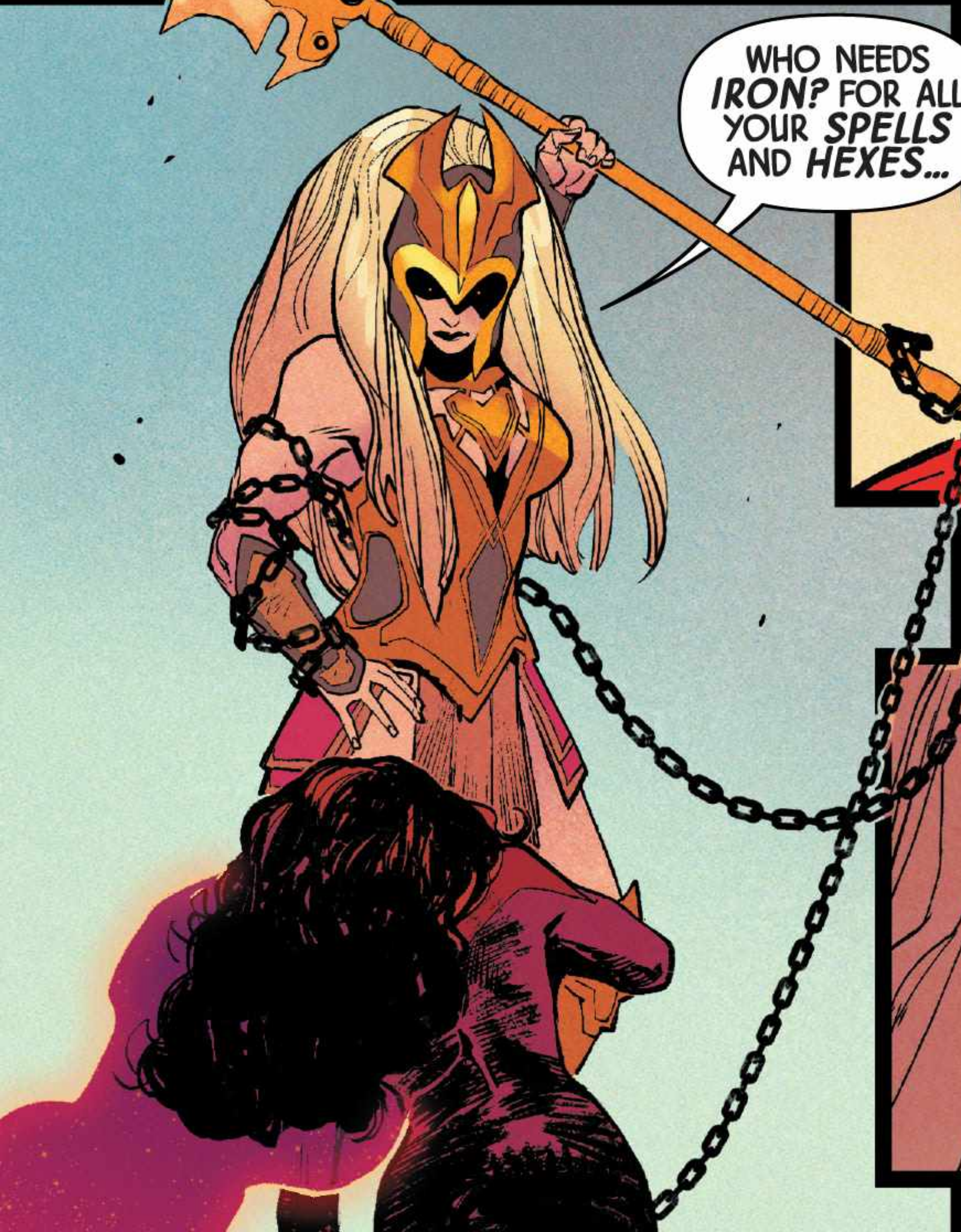


PLEASE.



YOU'RE NOT MY FIRST SORCERESS.

WREK



WHO NEEDS IRON? FOR ALL YOUR SPELLS AND HEXES...



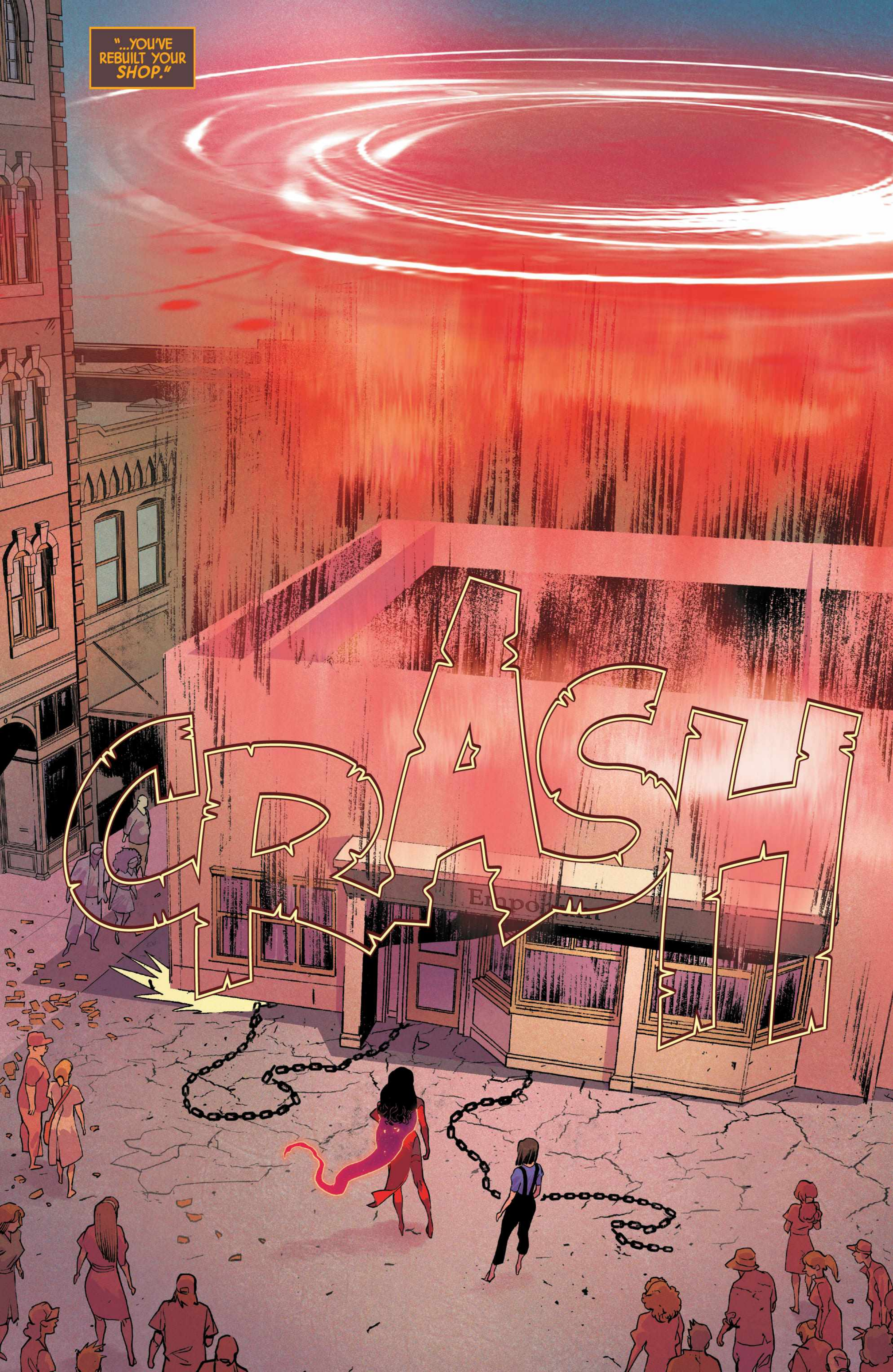
...NOT ONE OF YOU COULD EVER TAKE A PUNCH.

READY TO TAKE MINE?



OH...

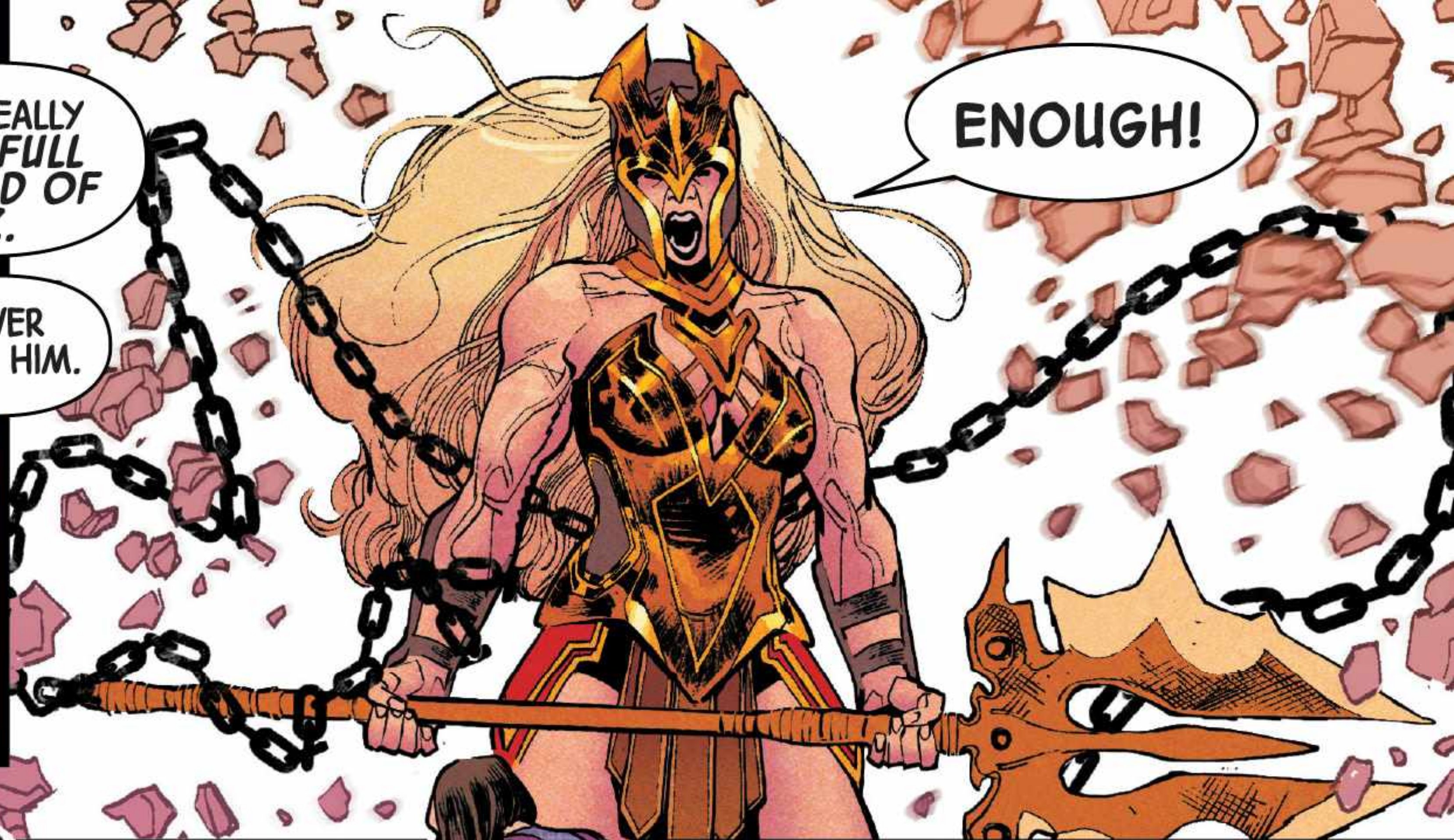
"...YOU'VE
REBUILT YOUR
SHOP."





YOU REALLY WENT *FULL* WIZARD OF OZ.

NEVER MET HIM.



ENOUGH!



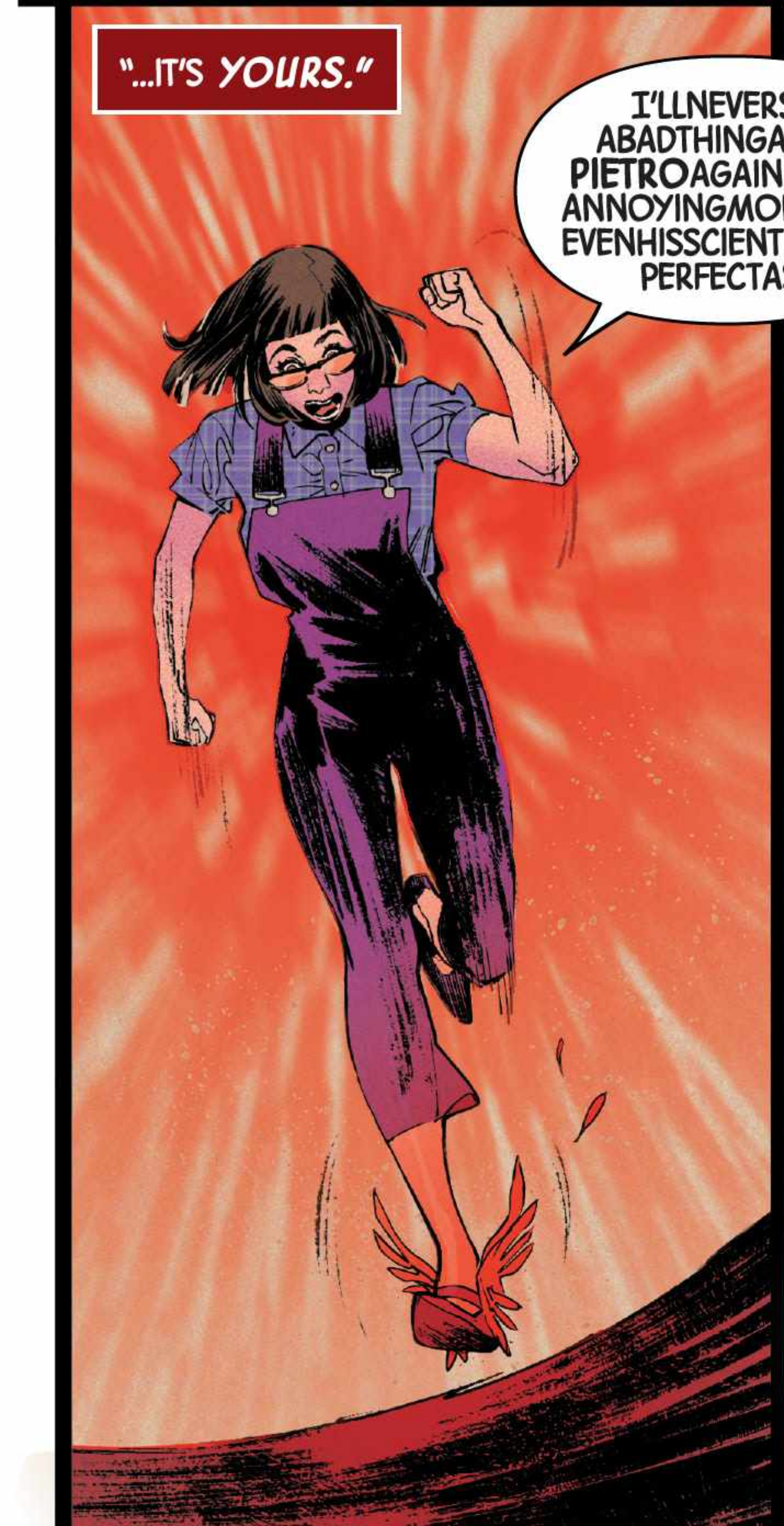
RUN, DARCY!

ISN'T THAT YOUR BROTHER'S GIG?

SLEEK

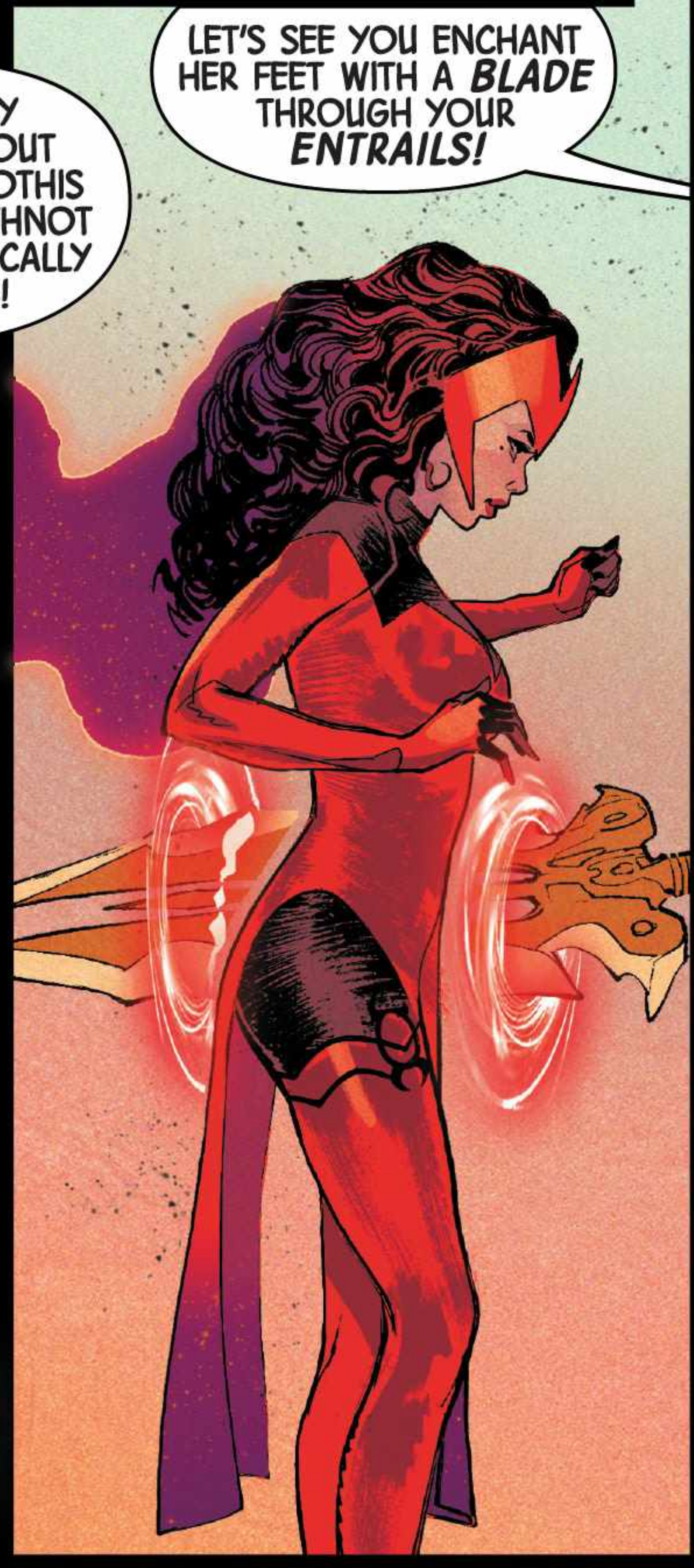


FOR THE NEXT FIVE SECONDS...



"...IT'S *YOURS*."

I'LL NEVER SAY A BAD THING ABOUT PIETRO AGAIN. NOT THIS ANNOYING MOUTH. NOT EVEN HIS SCIENTIFICALLY PERFECT ASS!



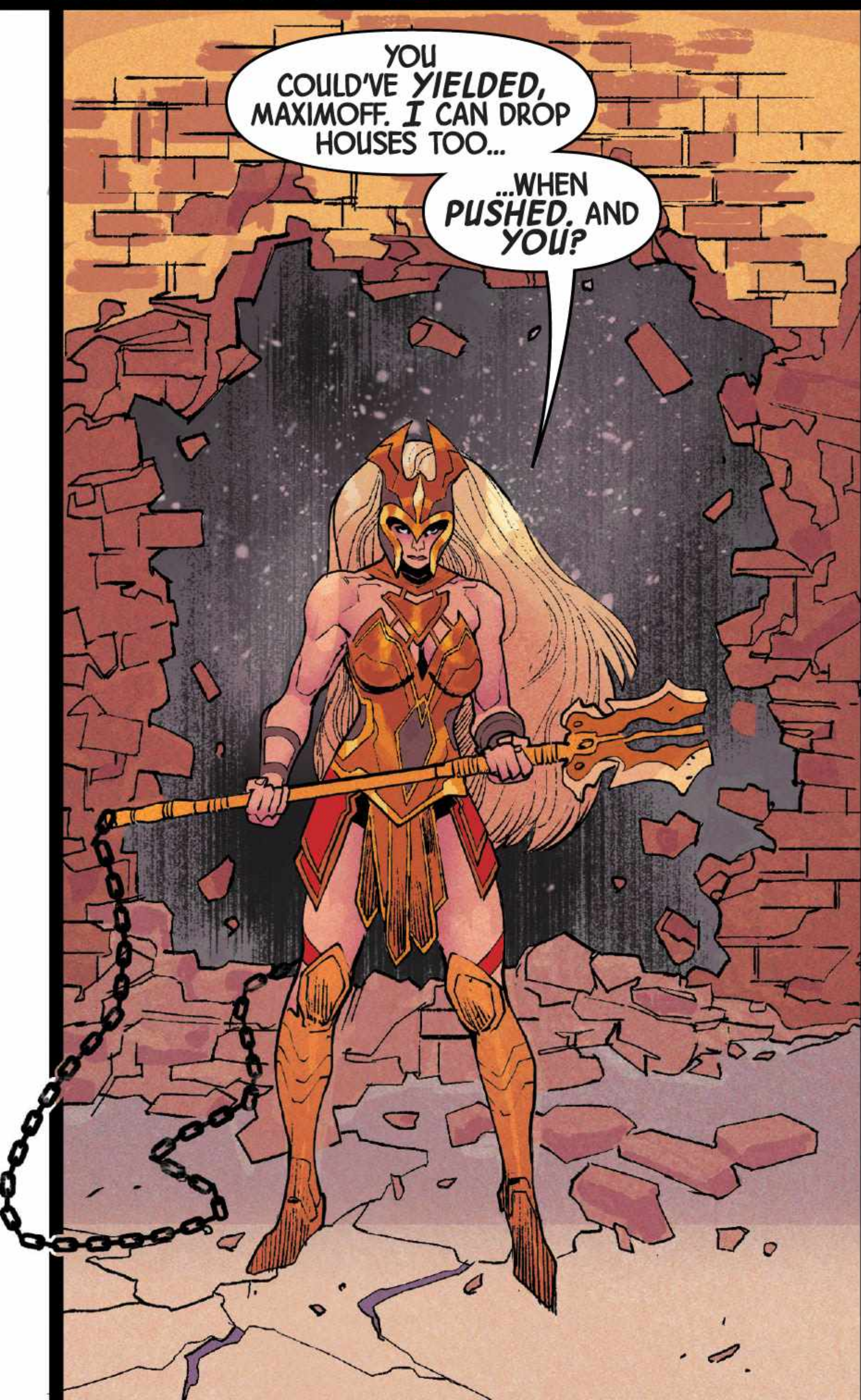
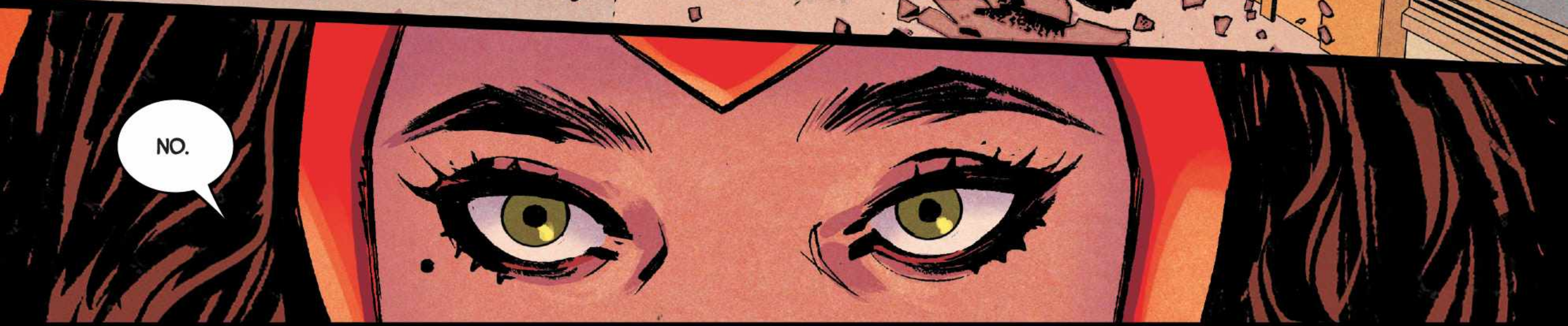
LET'S SEE YOU ENCHANT HER FEET WITH A *BLADE* THROUGH YOUR *ENTRAILS*!



BEHAVE, SCYTHIA. DON'T MAKE ME DROP MY SHOP ON YOU AGAIN.

YOU WANT TO JOKE?

SNIIP



"...JUST TO FAIL
TO SAVE ONE."

HELP!
YOU'VE GOT
TO HELP!

GOT
TO--

WHAT?

WE--WE'RE
ALIVE?

IT'S OKAY,
EVERYONE. YOU'RE
SAFE.

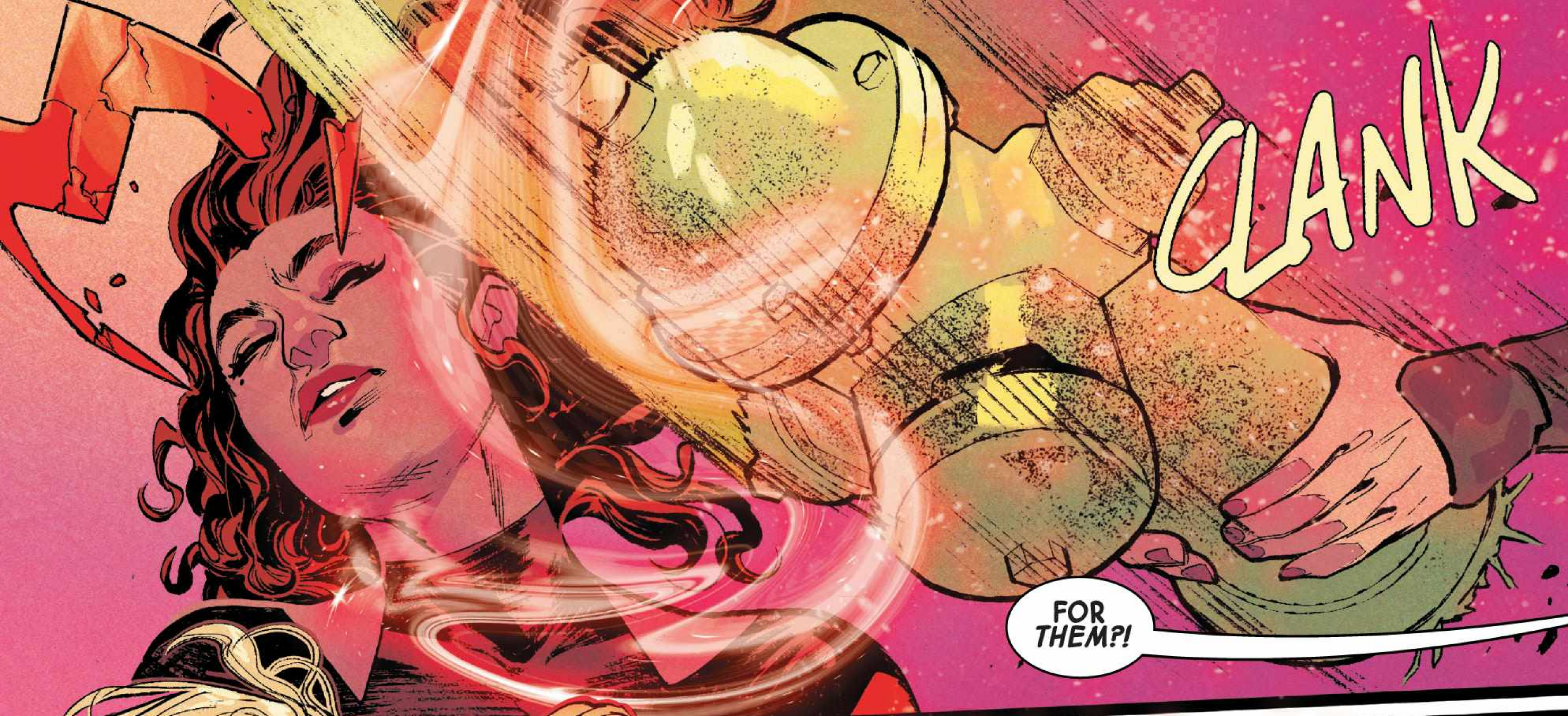
SAFE? ALL WE HAD
JUST TURNED TO
LEAVES AND BLEW
AWAY...

I KNOW. AND
I CAN'T REPLACE
WHAT WAS LOST, NOT
EXACTLY.

BUT IF THE
NEXT THING YOU
DO WITH THESE HANDS
IS BUY A LOTTERY
TICKET...

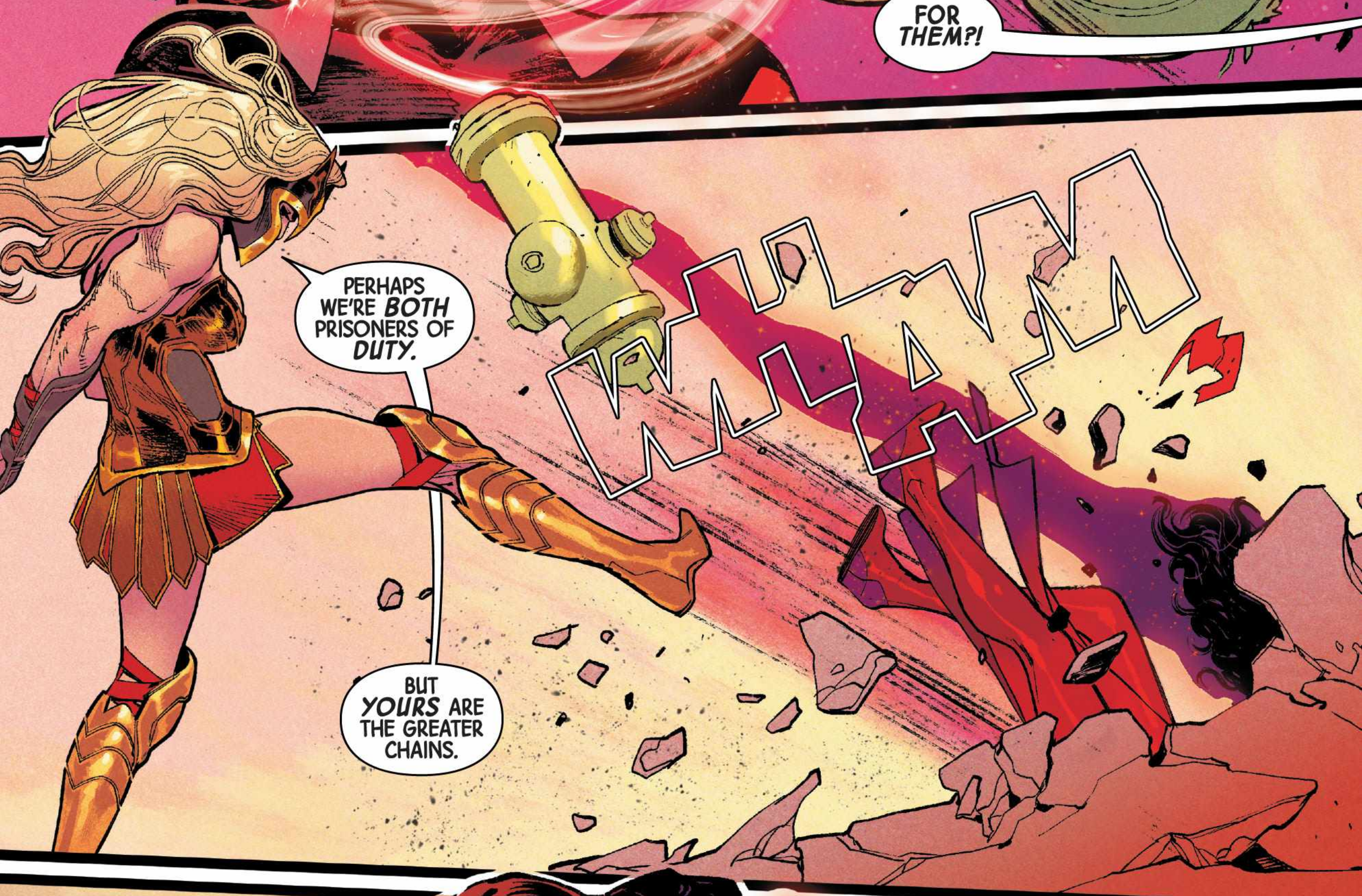
...EACH
OF YOU WILL
WIN.

YOU'D LOWER
YOUR GUARD SO
EASILY?



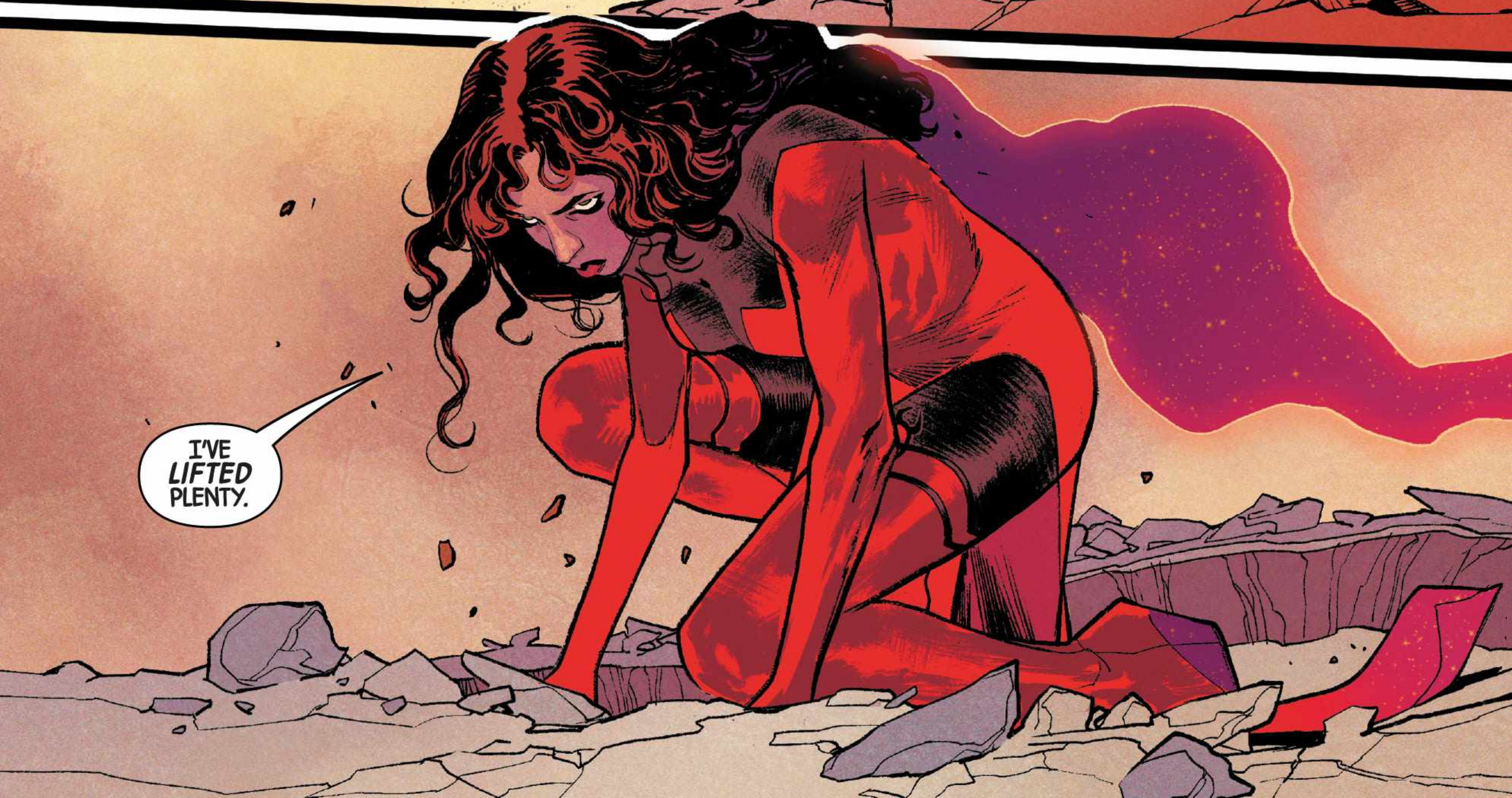
CLANK

FOR
THEM?!

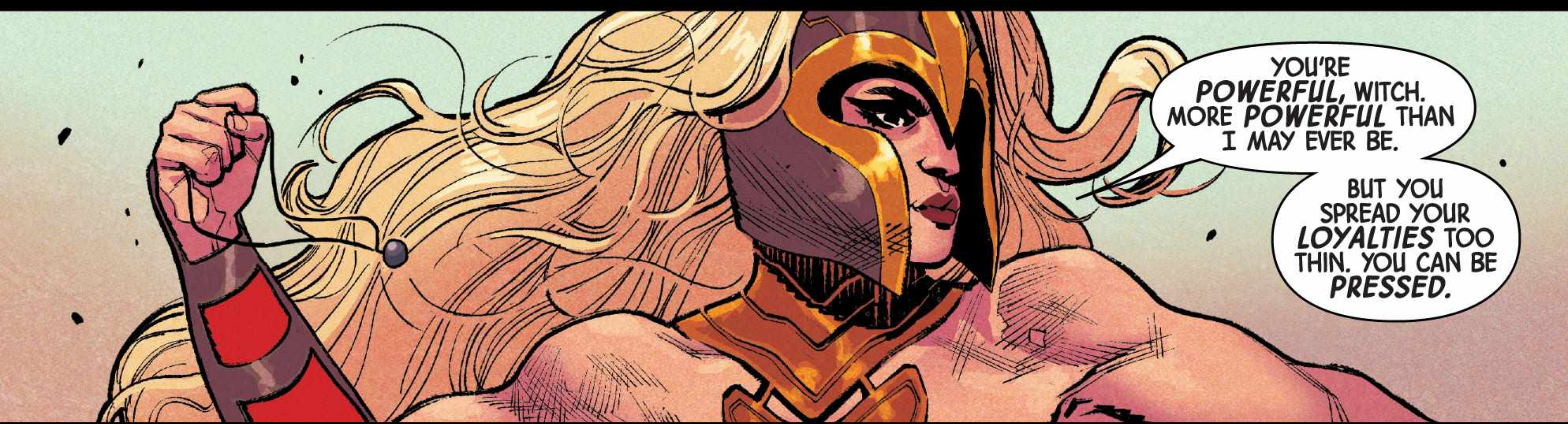


PERHAPS
WE'RE **BOTH**
PRISONERS OF
DUTY.

BUT
YOURS ARE
THE GREATER
CHAINS.



I'VE
LIFTED
PLENTY.



YOU'RE
POWERFUL, WITCH.
MORE **POWERFUL** THAN
I MAY EVER BE.

BUT YOU
SPREAD YOUR
LOYALTIES TOO
THIN. YOU CAN BE
PRESSED.

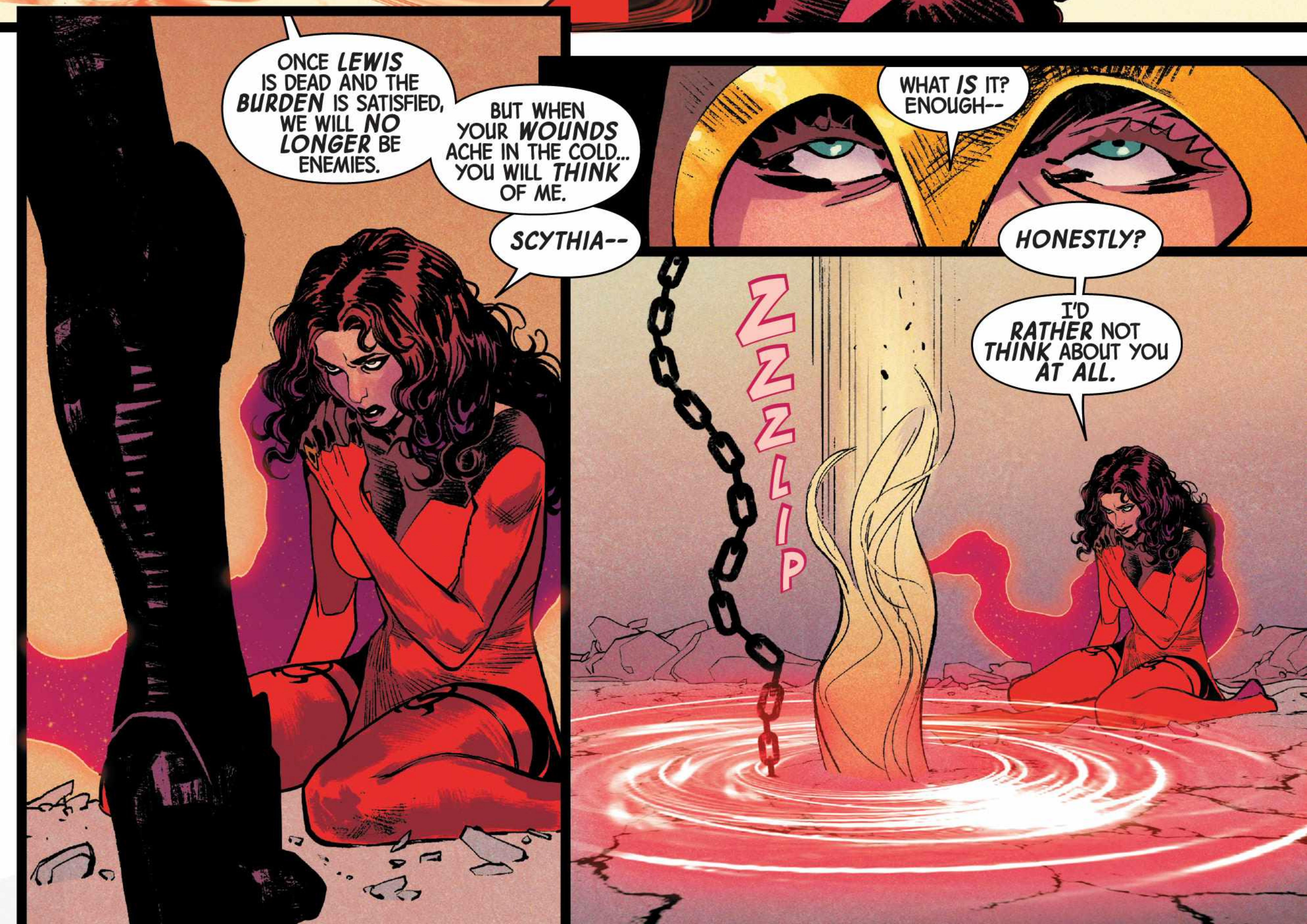


AND
YOU CAN BE
BEATEN!



AGHK!

CHOK



ONCE **LEWIS**
IS DEAD AND THE
BURDEN IS SATISFIED,
WE WILL **NO**
LONGER BE
ENEMIES.

BUT WHEN
YOUR **WOUNDS**
ACHE IN THE COLD...
YOU WILL **THINK**
OF ME.

SCYTHIA--

WHAT **IS** IT?
ENOUGH--

HONESTLY?

I'D
RATHER NOT
THINK ABOUT YOU
AT ALL.

ZZZZLIIP



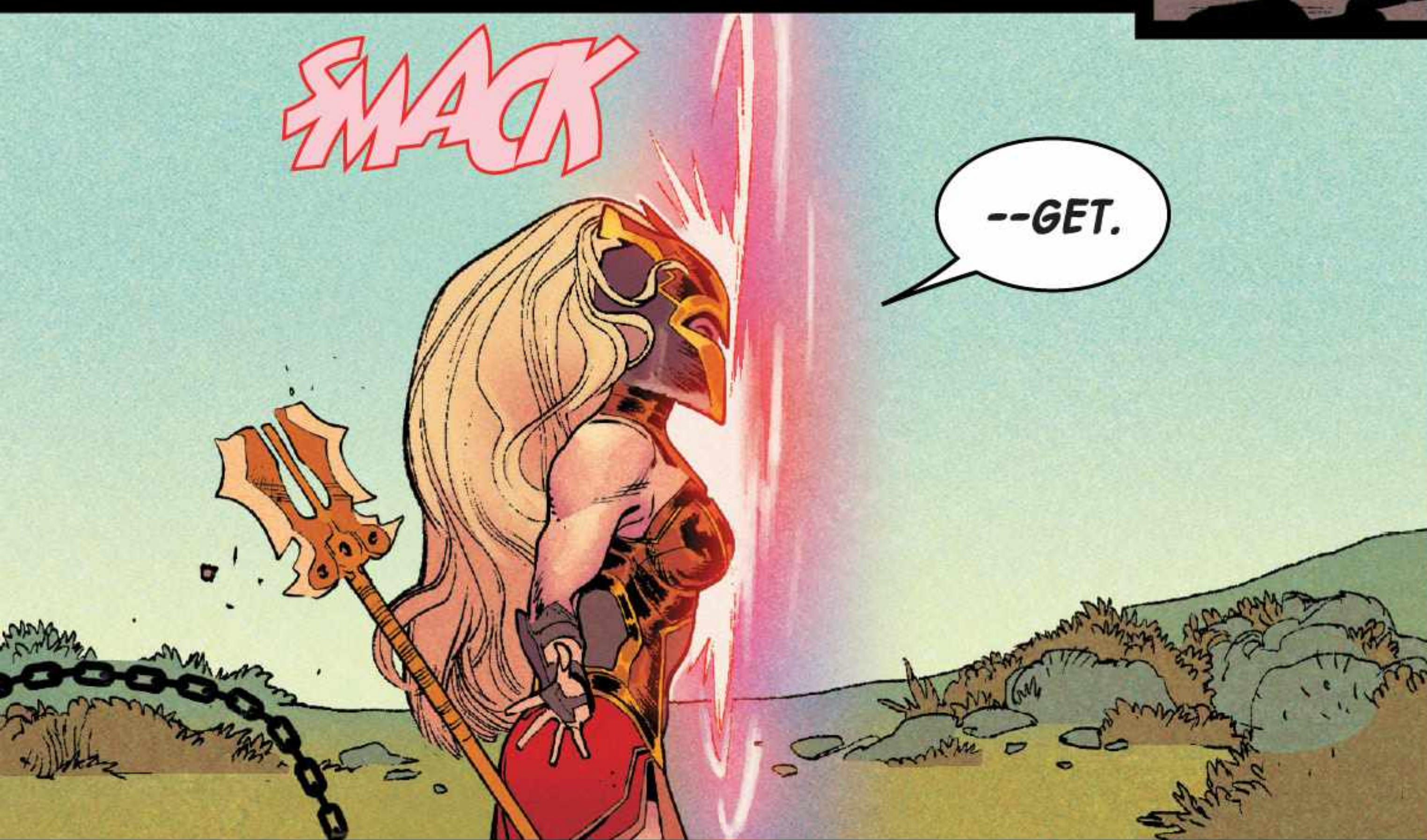
THUD

INFURIATING.

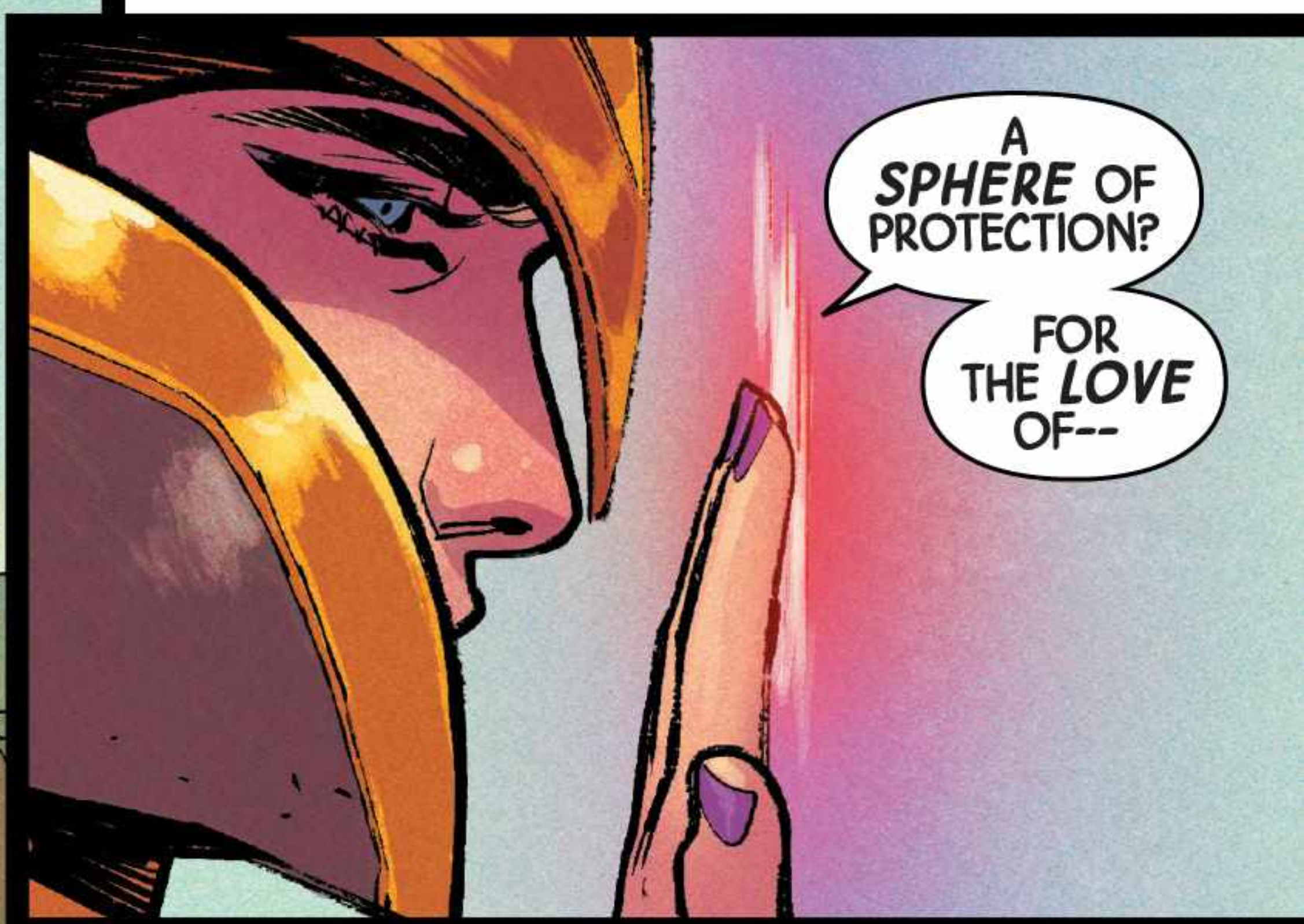
HERE IN
THE **MANURE
WILDS**, DUELING
A **WITCH** TO
SHAME HERA...

...FOR THE
DAMN FOOL
DAUGHTERS OF
ENYO.

ALL THIS FOR
AN **UNHINGED**
SECT I'D RATHER
SOON FOR--

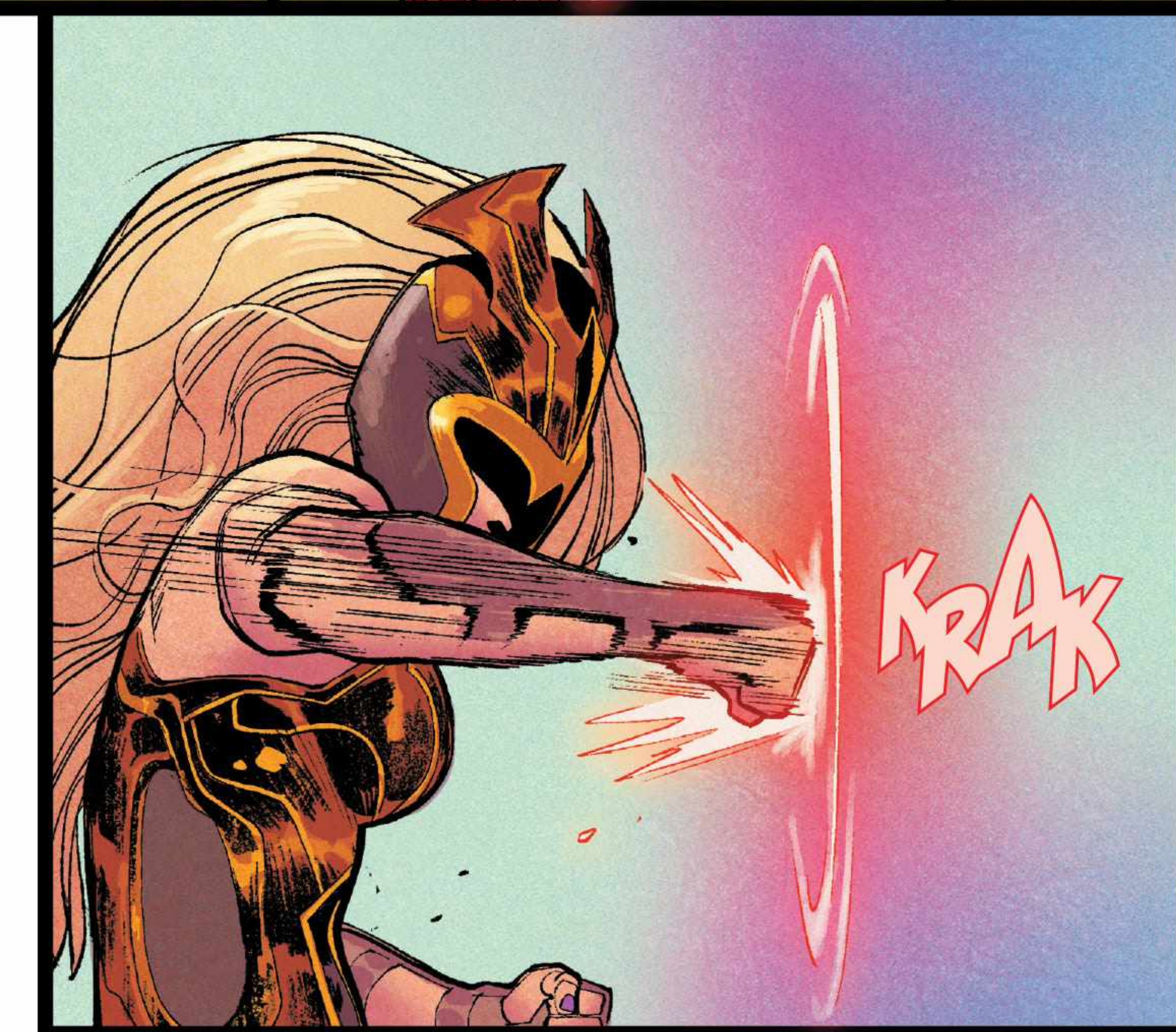


--GET.



A
SPHERE OF
PROTECTION?

FOR
THE **LOVE**
OF--



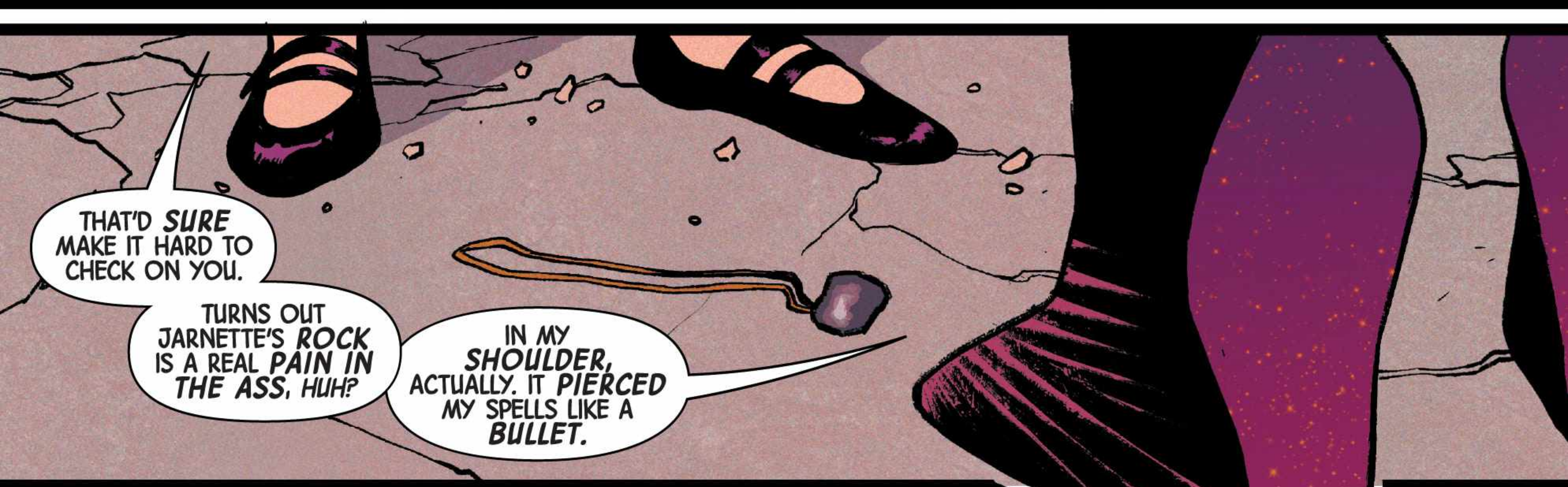
KRAK



SNORIGT

MAXIMOFF.

A **WITCH**
TO SHAME
HERA...



...YOU DON'T
KNOW *WHY*. SCYTHIA
WAS RIGHT. I *INFILTRATED*
THE *DAUGHTERS*
OF *ENYO*.

AS A
JOURNALIST. A
DESPERATE JOURNALIST.
I'D MADE MISTAKES. RAN
A STORY I *KNEW*
WAS TRUE.

BUT I WAS
GREEN. I DIDN'T
WAIT TO VERIFY MY
SOURCES. GOT MYSELF
NICE AND *FIRE*D.

GOT CANNED
A *FEW* MORE
TIMES HUNTING FOR
A *COMEBACK*. GOT
RECKLESS, BUT
DIDN'T CARE.

I'D HEARD
OF THE *BACCHAE*.
MOST WOMEN HAVE.
BUT THE *DAUGHTERS*
OF *ENYO* WERE OUT
OF CONTROL.

DEATH WAS
THE *ONLY* *PENALTY*
THEY HAD, NO MATTER
THE CRIME. I THOUGHT
IF I COULD *EXPOSE*
THEM...

...IT'D BE
BIG ENOUGH TO
REDEEM MY BYLINE.
IT WAS GOING *FINE*, I
ALMOST MADE IT TO
INITIATION.

THEN THEY
FOUND MY NOTES.
AND IT WAS *ME*
FACING *DEATH*.

I'M
SO *SORRY*,
WANDA.

I *KILLED*
THAT SECT
SISTER.

IN
SELF-DEFENSE.
AND THAT SOLE ACT
DOES *NOT* DEFINE
YOU.

ALL IS *NOT* AS SCYTHIA SEES
IT. BUT *SHE* NO LONGER
MATTERS. NOT *HERE*.

AS LONG
AS YOU'RE IN
LOTKILL...

"...YOU ARE
BEYOND THE
BACCHAE'S REACH."



KRAK CHOOM

KRAK KRAK

KRLANK KRLANK

HOURS
WANDERING THE
BORDER OF THIS
DRUDGE OF A
VILLAGE WITH NO
WAY IN...

...BUT FINALLY,
A WAY UNDER.
AND THERE, A BOON.
A HINT OF
ALCHEMY.

A SIGN
THAT THE FATES
FAVOR ME.

A POCKET,
DEEP AND LONG,
OF THE VERY ROCK
THAT BROKE YOUR
SPELLS.

THE
ORNAMENT
ALONE DREW
YOUR BLOOD.

IMAGINE
WHAT I'LL DO
WITH THIS.



PREPARE
YOURSELF,
MAXIMOFF.

THE NEXT
ROUND IS
MINE.

NEXT: DUEL OF DUTY!

SCARLET LETTERS

Dear Steve, Sara, Elisabetta, Matthew and Alanna,

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for bringing back Scarlet Witch in such a big way. It's been a rough few years for Wanda fans, and after the SCARLET WITCH (2015) book ended, it felt like we might never see a Scarlet Witch solo again. But around when DARKHOLD came out, I started to feel optimistic again, and these first two issues of SCARLET WITCH (2023) have totally vindicated that sentiment.

I can't emphasize how much I've missed Wanda being back in the realm of the mystical as the protagonist of her own story and not just a convenient plot device in someone else's--charting a path forward and not just relitigating old baggage from her past. It feels good to see storytelling that places these themes back into her focus for what feels like the first time since 2015/16, while simultaneously not pretending like the past didn't happen; it simply shouldn't define Wanda, which has sadly been the case until very recently, especially with respect to a certain Pacific island. But now, thanks to you guys, we can finally be in a timeline where Scarlet Witch doesn't have to be on trial.

I must give praise to this new Wanda design. It is the perfect evolution of Kevin Wada's fantastic 2015 iteration, and I really enjoy the way Dauterman has incorporated elements from both it and *WandaVision*, another wonderful modern Wanda story. Sara Pichelli and Elisabetta D'Amico's art has been fantastic, and, of course, the coloring by Matthew Wilson has been excellent as well--special mention has to go to Wanda herself; it feels good to see such care paid to depicting her darker complexion in a respectful way.

And what a pleasant surprise to see another element from *WandaVision* reappear in Darcy! I think it would be nice to maybe see Monica Rambeau visit the Emporium soon--those characters have such a long history as Avengers and most recently worked well together during NO ROAD HOME. I'd love for them to catch up eventually in the pages of SCARLET WITCH '23.

I hope this creative team can stick together for a while and just keep advancing Wanda's story, giving her new friends and new foes like Dreamqueen--it's all Scarlet Witch fans have wanted for years, and I'm glad it seems to be within our grasp now.

Thanks for all the great work, and looking forward to more!

Best Regards,
Paracelsus Caspari
Atlanta, GA

Thank you so, so much for supporting the series, my friend! And not just that, but for sticking with Wanda all this time through her ups and downs. I truly appreciate your insight, as does the entire creative team. Suffice to say, we're definitely looking forward when it comes to Wanda. But, just like in real life, those who don't learn from the past are doomed to repeat it. And we'd never want to doom Wanda, so while she's of course aware of her mistakes, she's now using them to inform her future instead of letting them hold her back from having one.

What a wonderful start to a new journey for my favorite witch! As a die-hard Wanda Maximoff fan, thank you from the bottom of my heart to Marvel, Steve Orlando, Sara Pichelli and Russell Dauterman for bringing this fresh adventure to us! I hope it runs for many, many issues and story arcs--it's what Wanda deserves! Keep up the good work--you never know when your readers might need to go through the Last Door.

Brendan Reymann

Thank you, Brendan--from me and the entire creative team! We certainly hope to be able to run with Wanda for many arcs as well--but trust me, we're not holding anything back either. Every arc's going to be a challenge for us, as it should be, because we're doing our damndest to give you a blockbuster every arc. And if we go big from the beginning, then it's on us to find ways to go even bigger and more daring. We're all excited for the chance!

Hello there! My name is Tyler from Ohio, USA. I am a huge longtime fan of Wanda Maximoff/ the Scarlet Witch and am over the moon for this new series. I read the first issue and instantly went and preordered all the variants of issues #2-3. I love most Wanda stories; however, seeing a series that focuses on her character with so much love and attention is something not often explored and so very much appreciated, seeing as how so many have the demonization of her mental health or her instability as the forefront of a plot and her main role. Just really love seeing Miss Girl be a hero and move forward instead of moving back. Please make sure to always be true to her heart and who she really is.

Can't wait for all these new adventures with THE SCARLET WITCH!!!

Tyler S
Columbus, OH

Thank you, Tyler! We're certainly hustling on our end to keep challenging Wanda, finding

new ways to show people why she's a unique and magnificent character and, as you say, staying true to who she is and what makes her special along the way. We all appreciate your words and your support! We'll keep working in the comics mines on our end.

Hiya!

I just started my comic book collection last month and picked up my very first SCARLET WITCH. With powers that can manipulate reality, I was afraid it would be hard to put Wanda in stories that could threaten her life. But it turns out even the Scarlet Witch has her kryptonite, which also happens to be a piece of stone. Her Emporium with the Last Door is a fantastic setting, and Sara Pichelli's artwork suits the comic to a tee. How in the world did Wanda have a kid with Vision?!

Stephen Suminguit
Canberra, Australia

Thank you so much for your support and your kind words, Stephen! And much love to another "ph" Stephen, from one to another. You're absolutely right--challenging Wanda can be difficult in a pure sense of power. But also as you said--everyone's got a weak spot of some kind. And with a character as powerful as Wanda, it's not unlike working on the Sentry or Hyperion or anyone else with phenomenal cosmic powers. The weak spots might not be about their power but more about who they are. And when it comes to Wanda, someone who cares with such power, there are certainly ways to get to her that go beyond smashing. But hey, if you DO want to throw hands, she can do that too. Trained by the best!

I am LOVING where this series is going!!! I'm excited to see what awaits Wanda and Vivian in their near future--whether it be monsters, creatures or otherworldly beings entirely. Thank you, Steve Orlando and Sara Pichelli, for your creativity and bringing this amazing rendition of Wanda Maximoff into the Marvel Comics universe!

PeriRebecca

Trust me, my friend--the pleasure is all ours. And knowing what's coming for Wanda, let me tell you...there's nowhere she wouldn't go, no battle she wouldn't fight, if someone truly needed her. And a vow like that is truly going to take Wanda to places she's never been before. We can't wait for you to see it!

--Steve

THE EMPORIUM IS TEMPORARILY CLOSED

while we recover from some
unexpected damages.

If you need any urgent orders filled,
please write your needs on a slip of
paper and burn the paper (safely!) in
the flame of a wax candle at the stroke
of midnight. I will deal with all flame
messages as soon as possible, in the order
they are received. Thank you for your
patience in these eventful times.

Dear Ms. Maximoff,

Last week, your shopkeeper sold me what was supposed to be a
luck potion, but I've been nothing but unlucky since! Just
this morning, my dog ran out my front door right before an
important work call. I had to chase him all over town, and
when I got back, my street was destroyed and my apartment
building was gone, along with all my things and work
equipment! How is that lucky???

Any resolution you could offer would be much appreciated.
I'd prefer not to escalate this if at all possible.

Your neighbor,
Stella Jones

-Wanda

NEXT: FIGHT FOR DARCY'S LIFE!

We want to hear from you!
Send letters to
MHEROES@MARVEL.COM
marked "okay to print"!





ZONE